

More recently the author of 'Jane Eyre' has attracted great attention. A lady of somewhat obscure family, in which the pensive or less hopeful turn of mind may be said to prevail, her writings strike into new and untried paths; her characters are instinct with energy and power; her women are masculine, for what are termed those qualities are needful for them; her children say and do startling things; and so onward the plot is stamped with ingenuity, and the reading world have decided that she has unquestioned genius. She writes for the humble and dependent, and places their wants and necessities, their trials and temptations, the aid and improvement they require in masculine portrayal, blended with that insight into the affections for which woman is remarkable. Such works are needed in the society of England, and, in

her defence of the governesses, they met a want that nothing else could have so well supplied.

Miss Sedgewick, in our own country, has written fiction to a good purpose. Her "Poor Rich Man," and "Rich Poor Man," with many others of like tendency, are better than tones of divinity to impress the young with duties that are indispensable to their happiness and well being. Her "Hope Leslie" is one of the most charming books ever published, and the young swain will be sure to fall in love with the heroine, whose character is so attracting. Cooper, the novelist, has left impressions of life that strengthen our faith in virtue. The Spy and Pilot, are stories of thrilling interest, that taken singly, are not easily excelled in the whole range of fiction.

The works of Miss Edgeworth, the Irish lady, chiefly for children, are found in almost every home in England, and are a pillow of fire to lead the youthful mind in the right direction. As well obliterate the thinking principle of man as attempt to decry such writings; they have already been appropriated into the intellectual and moral crucible of mind. Her "Murad the Unlucky," and "Saladin the Lucky," teach the young novice better than homilies and moralizing, that a persistent effort in some well considered plan is better than any chance reliance in the work of life.

Mr. Dickens is another good writer, his Oliver Twist did more to reform the poor laws of England than their legislation. His portraits of low life, criminal life, have turned the attention of the British public in that direction with very good effect. His "Notes on America"—the journey being undertaken for a purpose in which he did not succeed—are a blotch upon his fame—they are false, unjust, and in excessive bad taste; he is also too foppish in his manners, and latterly his domestic troubles have left a stain upon him. It is said that his writings will not live; that the pathos and humanity are too much marred by humor and phrases of forced drollery. We might observe that our countrymen generally look upon him with favor, and his sentiments are republican in their tendency.

Capt. Marryat has disfigured his volumes with expressions rather the plot, that are objectionable. The London Waterman, the Naval Officer, and Jack Tar, are made to speak out in terms that none should be familiar with. Taking a middle course between the levity of the old writers and our own, he has not met with very decided success. His characters are as true to nature as Walter Scott's, the one dealing with the higher impress of humanity, the other with the lower, or at least with the rougher life. He sketches his persons with more substantial humor we think than Dickens. He came to this country also, but was neglected as his cotemporary was feted, the result was about the same, a splanetic volume against us. But for all this there is beneath this vestiture chiefly of profane phrase, a strata of good sentiment and sterling philanthropy—he appears to us just what he was, a generous fellow, too free for his own good, and we are constrained to say, "peace be to his ashes." But the fame of all other books has been eclipsed by Uncle Tom's

Cabin. We participated in the prejudice against it for several years, and it has not convinced us that the fugitive slave law is not inseparable from the institution of slavery. But the pith of story lies here, that it does not pretend to reason you into belief but lays siege to the affections and the heart. The description of the Ohio Senator is the finest delineation of this power we have ever met, and shows that slavery is a difficult subject to deal with in its moral and humanitarian aspects.

Works of imagination possess the power in an eminent degree of impressing themselves upon opinions. The rugged Christian character of Pilgrim's Progress has done more to sustain the severer schools of our faith, than all Calvin's writings. All that is uncheerful and sombre in that book sinks into insignificance before the stern endurance, the faith and hope, the startling events in the career of the pilgrims. Our views probably of the Scottish patriot, Wallace, their color more from the "Scottish Chiefs" of that admirable writer and woman, Mrs. Jane Porter, than from actual history. History itself is written very much in the romantic style. The Tory writers of England, who composed most of the early historians, have been very much upset in their estimates of character by Mr. Macauley. The plebian or democratic elements of Greece or Rome have suffered from the same cause; the Brutus's, Gracchi's, and tribunes of the people, have been misrepresented in consequence of monarchical sympathies. We still want the history of those nations written from our point of view. Of late novels we know less, but our periodical and newspaper literature have to bend to the unconquerable demand for this species of intellectual ailment. B.

Contents of December Number.

Editor Farmer:—As you have given my review of the articles in the FARMER for November, I will again try my hand, with those of the last month.

"Ideas of Progress," is a good article. We are going a head in almost every pursuit, and especially in that of farming. That man who makes no progress in his calling, will be far behind his neighbors in a few years to come. Our business here is to improve in mind, in morals, in manners, in the knowledge of our profession. "Go ahead in every thing that is right!"—that's the word.

We have a long letter from Washington Territory. Where is that? It lays on the shore of the Pacific, stretches from latitude 45° to 49° and runs back the whole width to the Rocky Mountains. The Cascade Mountains come down within 150 miles of the coast—all West invite settlements—all East is a mountainous, gravelly, sterile country, with few exceptions. Washington Territory will be settled. There is good land there—plenty of rain and no chance to raise corn. Let those go there who choose. Illinois is good enough for me.

"The Sugar Crop" and what's to be done in raising cane next year, is an important matter. Cane can be grown here and it will make capital molasses. I like the plan of a few neighbors getting a small mill and working up their own cane. A grand thing it will be when a farmer can have half a dozen

barrels of molasses in his cellar. The blacks are always healthy when they can have plenty of molasses—and the whites may—"profit by the example."

"Going to the country!"—Some man wants to go to the country so that he can go about the house with his boots loaded with mud! Let him try it in some country house, and if he don't find worse stumps than in the town, I am much mistaken. Good fellow! if you love mud so well, you ought to make a business of well digging and cleaning sewers! You would be useful in that line.

"Traveling Tree Pedlars!"—Well, they are plenty. They have filled our prairies with trees for a long time, but we don't get fruit. Fruit don't seem to grow upon their trees. They grow a little one year and die the next. This is my experience at least.

"Sugar Cane for Hogs."—That is so. They love the saccharine. It feasts and it fattens them.

"Plant trees!"—Don't put it off. You have an idle hour now, and the weather is open. You may repose under their branches, if you will do this; your children "will rise up and call you blessed."

"Plant cuttings of currants and gooseberries." Do it now, if the ground will permit. If not, bury the cuttings in the cellar for spring planting.

"Raspberries."—We often miss in having a crop because we do not protect them in winter. It is not too late now to do this. Lay the canes down, and throw litter over them.

"The Shubbery."—No garden is complete without shrubbery. Get that which is choice. A single beautiful shrub is far more ornamental than a thicket of common shrubs.

"The Wheat."—See that the drains are kept open. Wheat will be worth money next year.

"Ornamental Deciduous Trees."—We pay too little attention to the cultivation of our beautiful native trees. Ruralist gives us a list of several beautiful varieties, of easy cultivation.

"The Cherry Currant" grows very large with good cultivation, and is a very fine fruit,—perhaps the best variety of currant.

"The Culture of the Grape."—No farm or garden should be without grapes. When you have more than you want for the table, make them into wine. You will get a good article,—not filled with nasty drugs.

It is proposed to give more thorough trial to machinery at State Fairs. That is a good idea. No awards should be made without a thorough trial.

"The Steam Plow" made a good impression at Decatur. It will finally, with improvements, succeed. I have not a doubt of it.

Mr. Kimball's experience with the Imphee, is important. From the juice he made sugar every time he tried. He made some sugar which was very fine. And he had no experience. Hurra for sugar and molasses in Illinois!

"Illinois Nurseries," and shouldn't we have nurseries in Illinois? Don't our farmers like to sell their hogs and wheat at home? Shouldn't the nurserymen have a market at home? Can't we get better trees from our nurseries than from pedlars? Let those who have purchased trees of pedlars answer.

Mr. Morrill's land bill, which is to make agricultural colleges and schools in all the States, I hope will become a law. What would I now give if I had been able to spend two years of my youth in an agricultural school! Speed the day for the passage of Morrill's land bill.

"Fall Planting Trees."—If this can be done in November, well; if the ground is open and they can be planted in December, well. Everything depends on the planting, on the character of the ground, and favorable weather.

"Hogs."—These pay well and would pay much better if corn was cheaper. This year farmers will make more money on hogs than packers.

"Chinese Sugar Cane Seed" can be planted in the fall—a fact of importance, if such planting will secure the early maturity of the plant the next season.

Rhubarb roots should be planted out in the fall or early in the spring. You can't make the ground too rich for them.

"Homo" thinks the steam plow will ultimately be a success, but that it may operate against the welfare of small farmers. That same doctrine was preached when steamboats were invented, and railroads first came into being,—when sewing machines were set in operation, and spinning machines were put to work doing more spinning than fifty hands. Never fear. When machinery does work cheap, it is better for everybody. Such, at least, says experience.

Mr. Verry Aldrich, a distinguished fruit-grower of Bureau county, says that, "Barrens that are high and a little rolling are best for an orchard." Here is a fact to the man who is about to plant an orchard ten times the worth of the cost of subscription for this paper.

"The Physical Training of Girls," is a good article. They should be well clad, have a good deal of out-door exercise, ride, and walk and run, if they will. The plan of bringing them up as hot house plants is enfeebling our race.

"Tree Peddling" has a capital notice. Tree peddling merchants should be under the same rules as travelling merchants, who carry about their locomotive dry goods stores. Compel them to take out licenses and give security for performance of contracts,—when they sell trees for particular kinds, they make contracts,—and means should be provided to enforce them for ten years after made.

The lovers of flowers will thank the writer for the notice of the Chrysanthemum. These are all beautiful, and they come into flower in the "most melancholy month of the year."

On the whole, Mr. Editor, your December number of the FARMER is an interesting one. I would be glad to see such papers go into the hands of every farmer in the State. They would do good. HOMO.

RASPBERRIES.—Have you protected your raspberries? If not, do it now. Bend them down and throw litter or straw over them,—enough to keep them down.

Small grape vines do well protected in the same way.

DELAVER, Dec. 7, 1858.

Editor Illinois Farmer:—Yours of Nov. 23d has been received, expressing your surprise at my success in granulating the Imphee juice when Gov. Hammond could not do it. It seems, almost, as though your remarks savored of distrust in my statements, although I hardly think that you, or any one else acquainted, would feel thus, though I do not wish to boast. You request me to send my process, which I will, and desire to do so for publication, hoping it may be of some use to my brother farmers;—but, however, that I am an adept in manufacturing cane juice. I think that in writing for agricultural papers, we often presume too much upon the general information of many, if not of most of our farmers, on this subject. Perhaps you will agree with me upon this point, if I state a few facts that transpired the present fall in this region.

One man near ——— Grove, raised a little sugar cane and tried to make molasses and burnt it all up, and now has a bad opinion of the business. Another raised some cane and got the liberty to make it up at the works of C——, where they had three boilers. In the afternoon he came to the house in great trouble, and said to the lady that he had burnt up all his molasses, and feared he had spoiled the boiler. Mr. S——, living five miles from me, informed me that a neighbor of his, an honest, good man, came to his house for three quarts of lime to put into cane juice, and said, *he had a whole barrel of juice*. He took the lime home and put it all in and boiled it down to molasses, and was greatly disappointed that he could not eat it. He said he had boiled it down very carefully and was sure he did not burn it. I could make other statements about equal to the above, but will not. I shall now be somewhat particular in regard to my manufacturing of sugar:

1st. To make milk of lime, put, say, a lump of unslacked lime as large as two fists, into a vessel and pour on a gallon of hot water. It will directly boil and the lime slack to pieces and become white as milk. Always stir it up well when you go to use it. Lime water is made in the same way, but must stand to settle perfectly clear as water, and not be stirred up when used, but poured off in its pure state.

2nd. I boil my juice in square tubs, made of ½ inch plank, with sheet iron of the best quality nailed on with two rows of six penny nails. These tubs are set on arches. I grind cane with wooden rollers, turned by one horse. I have to use wood, not of the best quality, and begasse, (ground cane dried.) Now, I am ready to proceed with my process.

I ground one patch of Imphee, selecting only the ripe canes, running them through the mill twice. I obtained about 24 gallons of juice. In the first part of my process I followed Dr. Jackson's method.

1st. I neutralized the juice with milk of lime till litmus paper dipped into it would remain blue. This took a little less than a table-spoonful before the frost, and a little more than a table-spoonful after the frost. I then, not having eggs nor blood, used milk in my first batch, which is not near as good as eggs or blood. Afterwards I used eggs,

and will describe the whole process as it appeared under their use. I beat up well the whites of eight eggs for every tub full of 12 gallons; mix the beaten eggs with one gallon of cold juice and pour it into the boiler, then pour in the whole tub-full of remaining juice, which will mix all well together. Bring to a boil as speedily as possible, but be sure it does not boil one-half minute till the boiler be removed or the fire extinguished, so that the boiling ceases. The scum will then have a thick, green, beautiful appearance, and a minute or two, or three, before it boils, white spots will begin to break out all over the surface. When it begins to boil underneath, there will be a motion of the scum on top, like the heaving about of the earth under the influence of an earthquake. I am thus particular, because if you let it boil two or three minutes, half the scum will boil in again, and your labor more than half lost. Stop at the right time then, and after waiting fifteen or twenty minutes, remove the scum—then strain the juice through a blanket or some other cloth into the boilers in which you intend to evaporate, and boil down as fast as possible to one-half, or to 15° Baume's saccharometer. I, however, *guess* at it. At this point, Mr. Lovering's course is to extinguish the fire, let the syrup cool to 160° Fahrenheit, then add more eggs, then raise to a boil, then extinguish the fire again; wait fifteen or twenty minutes, and remove the scum; then lade into a bone-black leach; then, after it has passed the leach, return to the boiler; then add one gill of pure lime-water for every ten gallons of juice, &c. But, as I had not bone-black sufficient to make a leach, I pursued my own course as best I could, and used what information I possessed. After clarifying my whole batch of twenty-four gallons, and reducing it about half, I put in a gill, or some more, perhaps, of lime-water, without stopping the boiling. Soon after this I also added one ounce of granulated bone-black for every gallon of juice. When this is thrown into the boiling syrup, you will observe it everywhere turning white, or whitish, and hear a hissing sound.

I then continued to boil down very carefully till large, bright bubbles appeared all over the surface of the syrup. It is now approaching the sugary state, and must be treated with a very slow fire, and less and less fire till finished. My rule was to remove the fire when one little piece of begasse in a blaze would raise the syrup into a foam. My course was at this juncture, to stop the fire, shovel out all the bone-black I could, and then lade the syrup into some vessel and leave it till pretty cool, and then drain it off to get rid of the remaining bone-black. When nearly cool and you go to drain it off, you will find, a not very thick, but beautiful scum, having much the appearance of yellow buffed buck-skin.

I have found granulation taking place, or beginning, at various periods from 24 hours to two weeks after the boiling.

A few general remarks and I have done. In my first trial I tried to bring the boiling syrup up to Lovering's 238° and came near burning it up. When taken off and cooled, it resembled candy, at a molasses candy pulling. I thought I had made a failure, but yet

I put it into my sugar mould and hung it up. All the encouragement I had for about two weeks was, it smelt like real good sugar, and had a yellowish appearance on the top. In time, however, much of it granulated.

My second trial was a larger batch, and in some respects worked more to my mind,—having laid aside the thermometer and followed appearances of the syrup, or rather, being guided by common sense. In my third trial, I put in more bone-black, and was better pleased with the result. The syrup commenced granulating in 24 hours.

Permit me to say, my greatest difficulty is to know the exact point to stop boiling. If there is too much water in the syrup it will not granulate. If too little it will all stick together, and the molasses will not separate. I have tried to separate the molasses both in Jackson's and Lovering's methods. Neither work well with me. The sugar in my experiments, mostly, settles at the bottom, being heavier than the molasses; neither will the molasses pass through it much.

I find, since I last wrote you, that I can pour off the molasses, full of grains of sugar and find considerable sugar at the bottom.

I wish others, like myself, would give all the information they possess. I have been waiting to hear from others that I might add to my own small stock of knowledge. Had I everything on hand to do with, I would as soon undertake to make sugar from the Imphee, as molasses. It will be but few years before sugar making from the various canes will be as common as making sugar from the maple juice. I have now done the best I can for you, and I close these remarks by soliciting every one, farmers and all, to contribute their mites to our sweet interests.

Yours respectfully,

R. KIMBALL.

Feeding Stock in Winter.

Samuel Hale, of Medina county, Ohio gives the following account of some experiments in feeding his stock in winter. Practical experiments of this kind are of more value to the farmer than theories.

Mr. Hale says:

For several years I fed my corn in the ear, and with stabling and the best of care, could add but little to the weight of my cattle during the winter, and I had nearly given up feeding cattle, as I found that I could not make it pay. But three years ago I fell in with a "Little Giant Stock Mill," and liked its operation, procured one and set it to work—and, during the first winter, I ground and fed some twelve hundred bushels of ears of corn to my horses, cattle and sheep; and never wintered the same as well and as cheap as I did that winter. The next winter I commenced again in a small way to stall feed, the result of which fully satisfied me that two bushels ground with the cob, was worth more than three fed without grinding, to all kinds of stock.

The last winter, being the third of my experimenting, I not only ground with the cob, but also cooked with Hedges, Free & Co.'s Agricultural Steamer, about 1000 bushels of ears of corn, which I fed to oxen, horses, sheep, fattening hogs, milk cows, and six head of fattening cattle. The result fully satis-

fied me that one-half the corn fed in this way would put more flesh upon horned cattle, hogs or horses, than the whole would, fed in the ear. The facts and figures concerning the beef cattle, I will give as follows:

Five two year old steers and one cow ten years old, worth not to exceed, on the 1st of December, \$25 per head. During the month of December they were fed in the field with corn stalks; on the 1st of January they were driven to the yard and lay to stacks of wheat and clover straw—during the month of January they were fed once a day in the field with corn stalks. This embraces the whole of their feeding and care through the winter, excepting their mush, which was fed to them regularly from the 1st of January to the 1st of May, as follows: Each trough being filled at night, and also in the morning, with a half pail full of mush—after eating of which they could retire at their leisure to the yard. In order to come at the footing, I weighed one hundred pounds of the meal when dry, which made fourteen pails of mush. The corn fed was mostly soft corn, and badly moulded, as the most of the corn was in this section last season, and was not worth more than half price. The footing up then, is as follows: Seven pounds of corn and cob meal per head, per day, for one hundred and twenty days, eight hundred and forty pounds; at seventy pounds per bushel, twelve bushels of soft corn at twenty-five cents per bushel, \$3; corn stalks and straw, say \$3; cost of produce per head, \$6.

The cattle were sold about the 1st of May, to John Mallery, for the New York market, at \$3 62½ per hundred, live weight, and their average weight was one thousand one hundred and ninety-four and one-sixth pounds—bringing me in cash, per head, \$43 28. In my case it would be more just to give my cattle a handsome credit for converting my straw into manure, than to charge them with it.

Some may suppose that the trouble of grinding and cooking might still use up the margin. The facts are as follows: I used to set a boy eleven years old at grinding in the morning with two horses, and with what assistance I could render him while attending to my steamer, he would have fifty bushels (my usual weekly allowance,) ground by noon—and during the same time I would have half of the same cooked, reserving the balance for another cooking.

I think the trouble and expense of feeding cattle in this way, is much less than stabling them on hay; at the same time you fatten your cattle, instead of their losing from one-fourth to one-half of the previous summer's growth, as they usually do with the best care, on hay.

It is a fact worthy of note, that sufficient money is lost by the stock growers of Ohio, in allowing their cattle to fall away in winter, to pay all their taxes, and support all their schools and churches of every grade and denomination.

Every farmer should make his market stock grow every day, from the time it comes into the world until it goes to market, and in so doing will save at least one year's time, and one-third of the feed in growing a steer to weigh twelve hundred pounds, or in raising a calf to be worth \$100. I know of no way

this can be done so nicely as by raising more corn, grinding and cooking the same with the cob, which makes perfectly safe feed for any kind of stock, in sufficient quantity to secure the desired result—having fed over three thousand bushels of ground corn and cobs in the last three years, to all kinds of stock, and not having a single creature of any kind ailing in the least, while feeding the same, I am fully satisfied there does not exist in the vegetable world more wholesome food for stock than corn and cob meal. The virtue of the cob, I believe, consists more in its medicinal properties than in the trifling amount of nutriment it contains.

Sorgho as food for Stock.

Editor Farmer:—Among the uses that can be made of the Sorgho is food for stock. Cattle eat the blades readily and the stalks until their mouths become sore. To feed the stalks out to them, therefore, they should be cut into small pieces with the straw cutter, when they will be eaten up clean and will be as valuable food to them as corn. Hogs will at all times live on the stalks; and will fatten on them. The seed of the cane, which will amount to some forty bushels an acre, is as good for hogs as corn. This is experience. Cattle will be poisoned by eating cane seed just as much as they will be with corn. I have seen a good deal in the newspapers about feeding cane and the seed to stock, and I thought I would add my little experience in the matter.

November 20.

M.

NOTE.—We add to the above an extract from a communication published in the *Georgia Chronicle*:

"This is my third season of cultivating the Chinese cane. I have seven acres of it this year. Five of which I planted for the express purpose of feeding it green and dry to horses, cattle and hogs; and since the 1st of June until now, I have been feeding it daily to those animals. My calves have run daily upon two acres, sown broadcast, since that time. My cows and oxen while sick with the "black tongue" were fed daily with it. My oxen, when at work, are fed with it, horses ditto. My hogs are daily fed with the cane now, and are in fine growing order. I intend to fatten my pork upon the cane, as not only good feed, but equal to corn for the same purpose! These facts can be attested by my neighbors, for they know all about them. After three years experience with the Chinese cane, I have come to the following conclusions in regard to it, and I give them for what they are worth—not caring a "bawbee" whether or not they are endorsed by the people:

1. For forage, either green or dry, there is no plant so valuable.
2. More grain can be made on the same land than oats will produce, with an analytic value as food of one-third over oats!
3. For hogs, it is next to corn in every particular.
4. For syrup, it is equal to any cane, and for sugar ditto.

This is no more speculation—I have tried the forage, made syrup and sugar, and for the analysis of its value as feed, am indebted to Prof. Lee.

If the Patent Office had done no other thing

than imported this seed, it deserves the commendation of the whole country—and while politicians are wrangling over the "tithes of anise and mint and cummin, and neglecting the weightier matters of the law," let the "bone and sinew"—the producers of the country—sustain the only bureau of the Federal Government which benefits them by distribution of seeds."

The Dairy.

Editor of the Farmer:—Farmers complain that their crops are not good and that they are not able to pay their debts. This is the complaint of many. Some, however, who purchase only what they can pay for, seem to be getting along about as well as in former years. The trouble is that too many live on anticipated crops—live a year ahead of their income; and when this income fails, of course they are in a bad way.

But I am not about to lecture on domestic economy. These lectures have been common enough within the two last years—our own experience the lecturers. What I propose to say is, that there are some employments which our farmers would find reasonably profitable, if they would engage in them. One of them is the Dairy business.

We certainly have a good country for stock. We can have the best pastures. We can have green crops, to feed our Cows in August and September, if pastures fails.—We can have good meadows, from which to secure hay for winter. We can raise corn, and feed them, as we like, with cracked corn; and we can raise roots—carrots, the large beet, and turnip, to feed them with occasionally in winter. It is true that the care of milch cows is a steady and constant employment. They must have care and shelter, must be fed regularly, must be milked regularly—the milk must be properly taken care of. There must be a milk house neat, clean, ever sweet, and kept warm or cool as desired. If butter is made, it should be done with care, and it should be a tip-top article. The same may be said of cheese.

New cheese and butter pay well here. A good article of either brings a good price, a much better price than can be had in any part of New York or Ohio. Good Butter the year round has brought twenty-five cents a pound in this market; and green cheese, a week from the press, is always sold, at wholesale at eight cents per pound. With these good markets for the products of the Dairy, with pastures free of cost, with roots that produce in abundance all that food required for cows—there is not made butter and cheese enough in this country, to supply the demands of the country. Our public houses—at least many of them, purchase their butter from Ohio and New York—and the cheese found in our States mainly comes from those States.

Why is this? Is it because our farmers cannot make money fast enough with the good profits on butter and cheese? Or is it, because our people do not like the labor necessary to carry on the Dairy? There is some screw loose here. Perhaps they do not know how to make cheese and butter.—Perhaps they had rather not be industrious as would be necessary to have a thriving

and paying Dairy. I have known certain farmers come here and make money as they made butter and cheese, and after a year or two would fall away into the habits of the country.

I am entirely satisfied that good profits can be made here by good Dairies. There is a great opening for them. It is a shame that in this fertile region, we have to send to New York and Ohio for our Cheese and Butter.

Wines.

Editor Farmer:—A few day ago I saw the paragraph copied below in a newspaper. I cut it out for publication in the FARMER. I thought that the account of the wines usually sold at the shops, and the manner in which they are compounded, would be interesting to your readers. You could see what stuff is sometimes used for sacramental purposes; but oftener by well persons, as a stimulating and healthful drink, and by the sick in their weakness. A pure article of wine is not very injurious drink in reasonable quantities. Indeed, I think in many cases it is useful. So our physicians say, and they ought to know.

Now, there are many vegetables which can be employed to make a healthful wine. That made from our native grapes; from currants; and from other fruit; is very harmless—unless enough sugar is added to give it strong intoxicating qualities. Even some of our domestic wines, hailing from Cincinnati, are said to be imitations and counterfeited. Hence, if our people must drink wine—if the ladies desire to have a little in their houses to treat their friends or to use as medicine, they had better make it themselves. This they can do in the proper season; and I hope that the analyses made of wine in Cincinnati, and given below, will induce them to make the attempt.

"MORE GRAPES."

WHAT WINES ARE MADE OF.—Hiram Cox, Esq., of Cincinnati, made the following statement: "During the summer of 1856, I analysed a lot of liquors for some conscientious gentlemen of our city, who would not permit me to take samples to my office, but insisted on my bringing my chemicals and apparatus to their store, that they might see the operation. I accordingly repaired to their store and analysed samples of sixteen different lots. Among them were port wine, sherry wine, and Madeira wine. The distilled liquors were some pure, and some vile and pernicious imitations, but the wines had not one drop of the grape! The basis of the port wine was diluted sulphuric acid; colored with elderberry juice, with alum, sugar, and neutral spirits. The base of the sherry wine was a sort of pale malt, sulphuric acid, from the bitter almond oil, with a per centage of alcoholic spirits from brandy. The basis of the Madeira was a decoction of hops, with sulphuric acid, honey, spirits from Jamaica rum, &c. The same week after analysing the above and exhibiting the quality and character of the liquors to the proprietors, a sexton of one of our churches informed me that he had purchased a gallon of the above port wine, to be used in his church on the next Sabbath for sacramental purposes, and that for the mixture of sulphuric acid, alum, and elderberry juice, he paid \$2 75 a gallon."

Hedging.

Editor of the Farmer:—I have tured out this winter another half mile of Hedge. It is now on its fifth year. I am so well pleased with my own experience that I intend to plant a hedge around the remainder of my farm the next spring.

A little experience in raising hedges will show that a good hedge can be made in four years. The idea that you must make a broad base for your hedge, is folly, I think. My hedge was planted, out four years ago last spring—the plants were placed from five to six inches apart—the second spring, I cut them off well down to the ground—the next spring, I cut them off six inches from the ground—last I again cut them off twelve inches from the ground—this fall I slashed down the tops and let them lay over each side of the hedge and took up the fence that protected it—and not an animal has gone through it.

I saw a bull make the attempt three times. He went up deliberately and put his head into it. The insinuating thorns went into his face, and he backed out. He made the attempt three times, and on the third time left the hedge with a roar!

My experience is just this. Get good plants; have your ground well prepared; and go to work in the spring and set out your hedge plants five or six inches apart; take care of them; weed them and live them for two years, and then treat them as I did mine.—Don't expect to get a hedge if you have a fence running close by the side of it. Your hedge wants air, sun, room, needing cutting back three times—second, third, and fourth year, and then afterwards topping it as you see it is required.

Some farmers say they can't afford to cultivate hedges. I can't afford to keep up a rail fence when I can make hedges, and when I have a hedge—which I always can have if I take care of it—I have something that I can depend on, and which with a little care will last. I do not know how long, and I don't know of any body that does. I have heard that there were osage orange hedges in the country twenty-five or more years old, and which promise to continue; but of these personally I know nothing.

My opinion is that a man who lives in a place of his own, and expects to remain on it, will find himself behind his neighbors in a few years, if he does not surround his farm with osage orange hedges.

I. S. F.

Editor of the Farmer:—I see in the last Farmer you express the belief that not more than half as much ground will be sown with Wheat this year as last. I think this estimate high. I do not believe there will be a third as much. Last season I had 200 acres of land, in wheat, I had attempted to raise wheat the year before. I have experimented to my satisfaction. Ten acres is as much as I will risk. I have turned my attention to cattle and hogs—mostly to hogs, I can get a crop of them to market every year. Indeed, I can so time the matter, as to have hogs ready for market, the whole year.—This crop is growing and in season all the while. Rarely does the price touch below a living price, I don't think we can glut the

hog market. I know we can the wheat market.

I am anxious to see the awarded premium list of the late Fair. I want to know what hogs took the premiums. Send me a copy.

[Suffolk, Parkshires, Irish, Byfield, and Cumberlands, took the premiums.]

Wants to go into the Country!

Editor of the Farmer:—I never wrote a piece for the newspapers in my life. It seems presumption in me to think of doing so. I never had any other chance for education than in attending a very common school; but when I read the piece in your last FARMER signed *Debby's Husband*, I just thought I would try to write. So sir, correct the mistakes, if you please, and if that is too much, burn this paper.

My mother taught me that neatness was one of the virtues; that it was an index of character; and that in families where neatness was not found, almost everything had an unthrifty appearance about the house, about the farm, about the children—about everything. I have myself called upon a neighbor who professed to have a contempt for neatness, and have been distressed to look about me. It was a good, nearly new, two story house. The owner had a good farm and made some money upon it. He had some six children and the oldest was not more than sixteen. I was invited into the family room. There were at least seven rooms in the house. There was a bed in the room where we sat. The quilt was dirty; the sheets exposed were dirty. The floor was without a carpet,—even a rag carpet, (which can be made without much labor.) The wife was in a dress that looked as though it ought to go into the wash-tub with the quilt. It was winter. I noticed the woman spit on the floor, and rubbed it into the floor with her shoe. The children seemed to follow her example. The jamb and mantle-piece were covered with spit and grease—and the two youngest of the children's faces and hands did not look as if they had ever been washed and their hair stood out all round their heads. These children would come up pretty near me, and stand and stare me in the face, and the older hardly behaved any better. "Won't you stay and eat dinner?" We shall have it before a great while." "No, I thank you—I was just running out an hour—the walking and weather are so fine." After other compliments I bade my neighbor and her children "Good morning."

Now, when I read the piece in your paper from some man who complained that his wife did not want mud brought into the room, and the drainings of his umbrella running on the floor or carpet, this scene, which I have tried truly to describe, came to my mind, and I heartily wished that "*Debby's Husband*," could be compelled to board in the family I have here described described for one blessed fortnight. I guess after that he would ask for some other "lodge in a vast wilderness." He would become tired of seeing persons going into rooms with boots covered with mud, and with all the freedom of children, and boys, and men, and women making a sitting room foul with filth and dirt, more disagreeable and unhealthy than

a stable. I guess a short trial of all these freedoms which "*Debby's Husband*" desired would sicken and disgust him, and he would return home and ask the forgiveness of his poor drudging wife.

But, Mr. Editor, I don't think your correspondent need to go into the "vast wilderness," or the country to find such place as I have described. I am thinking he could find them in his own town without looking about in the country. In my younger days, I am sure, I have heard of such places in town, and I believe they are more scarce in the country than in town.

Now, I want to say a few words in behalf of the wife. Her home is her little world. If that is not pleasant, God help her. To make this home pleasant ought to be her constant aim. I am sure it is if her heart is in the right place. Purity of mind is evidenced by purity of manners, purity of person, and purity of everything around. How much she has to do to accomplish all these objects? See her early and late, working, working, working. See her care over her dwelling, over the yards and garden around, over the family, their clothing, their food, their comfort, their education, whether of books or domestic economy. Usually how little sympathy has her husband, her sons, or other male members of the family, in all her cares or labors. And thus she goes on from day to day through her life. If her husband sympathizes at all with her, if he recognized and applauds her endeavors to make him happy, to bring up his sons and daughters in a way to honor and bless him, how it rejoices her poor heart almost to bursting. It is almost all she has to make her happy on earth,—and this wife, how often, borne down with physical toils, ends her life before she arrives to that age age that she could best enjoy it.

Mr. Editor, I did not think it was in me to write such a long piece for your paper. But the subject seemed to inspire. I have lived now some years. I have seen, in my limited sphere, a good deal of the workings of what I think an improper education. It has its effects on men and women; on boys and girls. If it can be done—and I think it can—neatness and industry should not only be taught the young by precept, but they should be required to practice these virtues, for I think they are virtues, as soon as their minds and physical powers enable them to do so. They should be taught to keep themselves neat and everything that they handle or come in contact with, and they should also be taught and required to help themselves, as soon as they can, and not be waited upon by others when there is no necessity for it. **EXPERIENCE.**

Contraction of the Feet in Horses.

Almost all horses at some period of their lives suffer from contraction of the feet. This may be attributed in a great measure to bad management. In my last, I mentioned the present mode of shoeing as the main cause of contraction another exciting cause is standing on a plank floor, in consequence of which the feet become dry and fevered; the moisture of the hoof having been more or less absorbed, leaves the horn brittle, un-

yielding, and liable to crack; now, this may all be prevented by poulticing or wrapping the feet in wet cloths whenever occasion requires it; by these means the horn is kept soft and elastic. Bruised heels will sometimes influence contraction if not properly attended to. I trust these remarks may be sufficient to claim the careful consideration of the readers of *The Ohio Farmer*, and impress their minds with the importance of attending well to the condition of their horses' feet. It will not only save that noble animal much unnecessary suffering but will be putting dollars in their pockets—an item these hard times.

I will now endeavor to explain some of the ruinous effects of contraction of the feet. The foot of the horse is a very beautiful and complicated piece of mechanism. There are three bones belonging to the foot—some authors make but two—and are named the coffin bone or *os pedis*, small pastern or *coronary*, and the navicular or shuttle bone; the coffin bone, situated immediately within the horny case, corresponds in form to the anterior part of the hoof or semi-oval latterly and posteriorly; on either side we find a wing-like process, to which are attached the latter cartilages, which extend upwards and backwards, and can be distinctly felt above the hoof; frequently these cartilages become ossified, (converted into bone,) in consequence of the pressure from contracted hoof, causing a high degree of inflammatory action in the part; this alteration of structure, when once established, never can be removed. This is a common disease in our large cities, where the horse has no opportunity of a run at grass; it has been called by some authors ring-bone, which seems to me a more appropriate name than the ring-bone of the present day. Occasionally the inflammation extends still deeper, penetrating the navicular or coffin joint, which is made up by the three bones previously mentioned, and which also frequently proves incurable, from the fact—first, from absorption of the synovia (joint oil); second, the cartilages covering the articular surfaces of the bones are destroyed by ulceration; third, a portion of the bones are destroyed by friction; fourth, exostosis, sometimes ending in ankylosis—two such specimens are in the college museum of this city.

I have recently articulated the skeleton of the famous trotting horse, *Ned Forrest*, the fastest trotter of his day in the world. As yet I have been unable to get his pedigree or performances. I find, however, several notices in some odd numbers of the *Turf Register and Sporting Magazine* for 1834-5, and 6. In a match against *Sally Miller*, December 9th, 1833, *Ned* won the first

heat in 2 minutes and 31 seconds; second heat, 2 minutes and 33 seconds; being the best time then on record. He was entered in a match against *Confidence*, to come off December 17th, 1836 for \$4,000, against \$2,000—\$500 forfeit. He received forfeit.

An association is now forming in this city, to act in concert with our Veterinary Association, to create a fund for the sole purpose of collecting together the skeletons of all celebrated animals as they may die—horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., &c., Each member is required to pay a fee of \$5 and \$3, annually, thereafter. Should any of our friends feel disposed to encourage the movement, they can get further information by addressing a line to me.—R. JENNINGS, V. S. Philadelphia, Pa., December 6th, 1858.

Sugar Grower's Convention in Winnebago County.

This was held in Rockford on the 8th instant. We are indebted to the Rockford *Register* for the following report of its proceedings:

The meeting assembled on Wednesday afternoon, 8th inst. H. P. Sloan was chosen President. D. T. Talbot, Superintendent of the County Poor Farm exhibited one specimen of syrup; Joseph Miller, Rockford, two specimens of syrup—one the draining from granulated sugar, one from juice yielding one gallon to four of juice; Peter Simpson, Rockford, three specimens syrup—one which was in proportion of 7 to 1, two which were in the proportion of 9 to 1; W. P. Sloan, Winnebago, one specimen syrup, which was in proportion of 6 to 1; Geo. C. Cleveland, Cherry Valley, one specimen syrup—proportion 7 to 1, Micajah Collins, Winnebago, one specimen—proportion 4 to 1; Sylvester Scott, Guilford, one specimen—proportion 9 to 1; Israel Gibbons, Winnebago, one specimen—no statement.

The President made a statement in brief of his experience, as follows: Planted one acre of moist prairie land; planted early, after planting potatoes; in rows in hills, 3 to 4 in a hill; cut about the 5th of October; expressed the juice with one of Talcot, Emerson & Co.'s iron mills; considerable cane soured and was lost. That which was cut before a frost soured; boiled the syrup in a 40 gallon Russia iron pan, 8 inches deep, 2 feet wide and 3 feet 4 inches long; is of the opinion that iron colors the syrup; used lime water for cleansing, one-half pint to thirty gallons, which gave the syrup a bitter taste; then tried saleratus, one table-spoonful to 23 gallons; thinks the saleratus makes the syrup clearer and more palatable; if the syrup is well skimmed and strained

through cloth the alkali is unnecessary; should boil 7 to 9 gallons of juice down to 1 to make it keep. Made no attempt to make sugar. All suckers should be removed from the stalks to make them mature. Yield of juice per acre about 1,800 gallons. Can grow about ten pounds to the hill; a good stock should weigh 2 pounds; or 10 or 15 tons of clean stalks to the acre, which would yield 200 gallons of syrup; thought the cane could be matured in this climate, and by selecting the best stalks good sugar can be made. It costs no more to raise it than corn, and the syrup at 25 cents per gallon, yields as much profit as corn at 40 cents per bushel. The leaves and seed for forage will pay all expenses of raising the cane, and horses like the grain better than other grain. The yield of seed was about 40 bushels to the acre. He thought cane planted on good sandy loam ripened earlier than when on heavy soil, and produced sweeter cane; thought if outer skin of the cane were removed the syrup would be much improved; had made the experiment and found it so.

Joseph Miller stated that he raised two lots of cane; one-half on river bottom land, one-fourth acre on light, sandy soil. The cane on the latter was smaller, yet of equal length with the other. This was fully ripe about the middle of September, and was crushed the 26th of the same month, yielding 1 gallon of syrup to 4 gallons of juice. The cane on bottom lands yielded 1 gallon of syrup to 10 gallons of juice—the syrup being of equal quality. From this syrup sugar was made by taking 8 gallons of juice and boiling it down to 1 gallon. This being set aside in crockery vessels, at the expiration of three weeks was drained and produced 2 1-2 pounds of fair, well grained sugar to each gallon of syrup. The juice was clarified with milk and eggs.

George C. Cleveland stated that he planted in drills 6 inches apart, and in rows 4 feet apart; occupied 13 rods of good prairie soil; cultivated once and hoed once. Planted May 20th, expressed juice October 1, with wooden rollers; run them through once; did not get two-thirds of the juice; boiled the juice in an iron kettle, and while boiling added two spoonfulls of lime water to each pail full of juice; would recommend to leave out the lime; boiled the juice to a thin syrup, and put in a little saleratus and milk; kept the syrup well skimmed, but is of the opinion that filtering would be better than skimming. Produced 1 gallon of syrup to 6 1-2 gallons of juice. Had ten gallons of good thick syrup from the thirteen rods.

S. Scott stated that he planted 12 rods of ground on the 20th of May, in drills 8 inches apart, on clay loam; soil

very thin—too poor to raise good corn; plowed deep, and cultivated same as corn, harvested October 5th; had 157 gallons of juice; yielding 17 1-2 gallons of heavy clear syrup; expressed the juice with wooden rollers by hand; did not get two-thirds of the juice from the stalks; boiled the juice in a copper kettle on a stove; used nothing to clarify; skimmed and strained through woolen cloths, and boiled to proper consistency.

Other speeches and statements were made, showing that sugar cane must become one of the most, if not THE most, important staple crop of Illinois.

Light in Stables.

Stables should be so constructed, by the insertion of windows in various parts of the building, that they should be "light as day." A "dark" stable is only a suitable *black hole*,—prison house for such a vicious specimen of the equine race as the notorious "*Cruiser*;" it is also the very worst location for any kind of animal. Sir A. Nylie (who was long at the head of the medical staff in the Russian army) states that cases of disease on the dark side of an extensive barrack at St. Petersburg, have been uniformly, for many years, in the proportions of three to one, to those on the side exposed to a strong and uniform light. Humboldt has remarked that, among bipeds, the residents of South America who wear very little clothing—thus allowing the cutaneous, as well as the orbital surfaces, to receive a free ray of light—enjoyed immunity from various diseases which prevailed extensively among the inhabitants of dark rooms and underground locations, and so excellent an authority as Linnaeus contends that the constant exposure to solar light, is one of the causes which render a summer journey through high northern latitudes so peculiarly healthful and invigorating. Dr. Edwards has also remarked that persons who live in caves or cellars, or in very dark or narrow streets, are apt to produce deformed children; and the men who work in mines are liable to disease and deformity.

Light, therefore, is a condition of vital activity, and in view only of preserving the sight of a horse, it is absolutely necessary that while he be the habitat of the stable, his optics shall have free access to the sun's rays.

If a horse was in the same condition as a polype, with no organ of vision, who shuns light, a dark stable might prove to be his earthly paradise, but as the horse has *spectral* organs of vision, evidently susceptible to the influence of light, and the integrity of his organism, or a part of the same depending entirely on the admission of light, it is absolutely necessary that stables should be constructed accordingly.—*American Veterinary Journal*.

SAGE.—The broad leaved sage is very productive and can only be propagated by the root. Though hardy, like red sage, it is greatly benefitted by a slight protection.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, JANUARY 1, 1859.

There is little traveling now except by railroad. The city is nearly out of wood, quite out of butter, has little money. Whisky plenty.

Some of the oldest citizens tell us that we have only about the same quantity of rain every year. If that be so, it is about time that rains should cease.

There is a very large amount of Chinese Sugar Cane syrup being made in Iowa this season. In some localities it is selling for twenty-five cents a gallon.

J. T. Little, of the Dixon Nurseries, has 150,000 saleable apple trees, healthy and fine, of varieties which have been proved in Illinois, on sale. His nursery is also well supplied with all the articles usually in demand for the farm, the lawn, the flower and the kitchen garden. His motto is "Western Trees for Western Orchards."

Chinese sugar is a regular article on sale in Oregon, and is quoted there at 13½ cents per pound. It is not as good as the Sandwich Island sugar,—not being made with as much care. No doubt this Chinese sugar is manufactured from the Sorgho plant. Capt. Perry, in the account of his visit to the Loo Chew Islands, says the people there make sugar of the juice of the sugar millet, (Sorgho.)

THE NATIVE AZALEA—This is an interesting shrub, generally found in swamps or low land in the Eastern States. It produces beautiful and fragrant tufts of flowers in May. Boys frequently find upon these plants exudations which are called Honeysuckle Apples, sweet, cool and watery. This would be a very desirable plant in the garden. They can be found at F. K. Phoenix's Nursery, Bloomington, and almost every thing else in the line of trees, shrubbery, and other nursery articles.

WEIGHT OF SUGAR CANE.—Mr. Council, station agent of the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railroad at Williamsville, last month, had the curiosity to weigh the product of a quarter of an acre of sugar cane, sent from that station, to the sugar mill at Springfield. To his perfect astonishment it weighed twenty thousand (20,000) pounds per acre; and it shows the propriety of erecting sugar mills on the farm where the cane is raised—a rule scarcely to be departed from except by those farmers who live on the line of railroads.

Pike's Peak Gold Diggings.

The information which is constantly arriving from the Pike's Peak gold diggings, is such that we apprehend a stampede of those "who are not partial to the dull pursuits of common life," next spring to this new Eldorado. Some of the emigrants to that point will be likely to make moderate wages there; some will not, and will find their way back to their poorer than they went, some will lay their bones there, and be soon forgotten by their companions. We shall hear of the success of a few, but we shall hear of the poverty and distress of the many. But still people will go—men who complain of the mud of the past month—and will among the runs and streams near Pike's Peak, stand in the icy water as it comes from the mountains, washing the dirt in their tin pans—a work which money would not tempt them to do in Illinois.

We suggest that farming would bring in more gold, to some industrious individuals, than this gold washing, in the valleys and canons of the Rocky Mountains near the gold placers. The soil in spots is said to be good; the timber is said to be fine; the valleys are sheltered from the snows and winds, and gold to a good degree. The climate is more favorable, at many points, than that of Northern Wisconsin and Iowa, and farming can there be made a success.

What we wanted to say in this connection, is this: The wages of laborers will be higher next year than they have been the past year, and farmers should take this matter into consideration when getting in their spring crops.

Protection of Farms and Buildings with Evergreens.

The discussions at the meetings of the State Horticultural Society at Bloomington, on the subject of evergreens, were very interesting. It was shown that evergreen trees, from nurseries, taken up with care, and their roots preserved from the atmosphere and kept moist, would live, when planted out, with as much certainty as deciduous trees; while evergreens, taken from their native woods, and planted out in a full exposure, in bad order, would scarcely ever live. The impositions which had been practiced on the community, by tree pedlars, with such evergreens, re-

ceived a scathing notice. It was also stated, that the taste and demand for evergreens was rapidly increasing, and that this increased demand induced nurserymen to largely increase their stocks and sell them at greatly reduced prices. A committee was appointed at the meeting to report the best plan of cultivating evergreens, and the cost of the different varieties, in quantities, and the probable expense of starting protective screens of evergreens. We trust that this report will show that trees for these protective lines of evergreens can be had at such cost as will justify our farmers in procuring trees and planting them out, and thus adding great beauty and comfort to their farms, dwelling and stock.

Sowing Grass Seeds.

W. W. Rathbone in the Ohio Farmer, condemns the practice of sowing grass seed with wheat and oats. If with oats, he says the oats will choak the wheat. If with wheat in the fall, the grass will injure the wheat. If the grass must be sown with wheat, it should be done in the spring. The best plan he conceives to sow grass seed is this: prepare your ground for the purpose in the spring—prepare well and sow your seed as the only crop. Then you will be likely to find your grass well set, and you will find the plan to pay. If you dislike to lose the use of your ground for a season, he recommends the following practice:

In July or August make the corn ground as level as possible with cultivators, and sow your seed, choosing a moist spell of weather if possible. Cut up the corn at the proper time; follow immediately, while the stumps are green and cut close to the ground; pass over with a roller, and your work is done.

The Wheat Crop.

So far the wheat generally looks well. Some low spots in the fields the wheat is injured, and always will be so long as they are undrained. Judging from what we hear, there must be much less ground put in wheat the last fall, than the fall previous.

MR. EDITOR:—I have sown all the varieties of turnip seed sent out by the Patent Office; and have found but a single variety that is equal to our old White Flat Dutch Turnip, and that was the "Rasp-Leaved Purple Top." Do you know anything of the experience of others in planting their seeds?

[We do not, except what we see in the Patent Office Reports. The "Rasp-Leaved Purple Top" is an American variety.]

Tulips.

November is said to be the best month for planting out those bulbs, but it will answer to plant them out any time in winter when the weather is open and the ground is in good order. Briegman says: "The ground for tulips should be light, part sand, and they should be planted on beds three or four inches above the surface. It would be well to throw some litter over the beds to preserve the bulbs from injury during severe weather."

A bed of tulips in flower is a most beautiful sight. It is scarcely a wonder that even the phlegmatic Hollanders admire them. In their gardens they cultivate some twelve hundred varieties. Mr. Dutelz in his travels states, that he has known single bulbs sell there as high as \$60. There was a tulip mania in Holland between 1634 and 1637. In that time, the bulb of the tulip called *Viceroy* sold for \$1,250; the *Admiral Lieb-hines* for over \$2,000; and other tulips at the most fabulous prices. A father engaged in the tulip trade, left one of these bulbs upon his sideboard, and a son, just from sea, supprising it an onion, ate it;—when he was told by his astounded father, that the bulb was worth a thousand pounds!

The Dutch still continue the tulip trade. Vast quantities are sent to New York and other parts of the world every year for market. But quite as good varieties can now be had of our nurserymen at \$5 per hundred. Some choice varieties sell at higher rates.

Stephenson County.

Stephenson County, has as many active, intelligent, progressive Farmers as any county in Illinois. It has a County Agricultural Society, County Farmers' Club, township Farmers Club, and at least one township Agricultural Society. At the meeting of the "Stephenson Farmers' Club," on the 4th, the subject of paying taxes in paper money was taken up and discussed, and a petition to the Legislature was agreed upon, asking that the paper currency, authorized by the State and secured by deposit of bonds with the State, should be received in the payment of taxes, representing that the policy which authorizes the issue of paper currency for the ordinary purposes of money, and then refuses to receive it for Government purposes, is an excessive hardship upon the people. At the same meeting a petition was agreed upon, asking of the Legislature protection by law against theft and robbery of orchards

—making such theft or robbery, larceny.

The Ridott Farmers Club, (Stephenson County,) held a meeting on the 6th, in which there was an interesting discussion on the merits of wire fences. The Club adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, that we urge our Representatives to pass an act, that the taking of growing fruit or grain, be made larceny.

Resolved, that it is but justice, that we should pay our taxes with our stock secured bank notes.

The Executive Committee of the County Agricultural Society, met at Freeport, on the 9th inst. A proposition was offered, (and laid over for consideration, until the annual meeting on the 28th,) for awarding a premium, for the best essay on the cultivation of the Chinese Sugar Cane, and the manufacture of its juice into Sugar and Molasses.

Active measures are being adopted in Freeport to secure the location of the next State Fair in that city. In connection with this fact, we may state that, Jacksonville, Quincy, Dixon, Freeport, Rockford, Chicago, Bloomington, Peoria, and Urbana, are all applicants for the State Fair.

Protection for Orchards.

In Hon. M. L. Dunlap's address, delivered before the State Horticultural Society, at Bloomington on the 15th ult; after referring to the destruction of our orchards within a few of the past years, he took the ground that orchards should be protected on the West and South by skirts of timber, or natural woods. This will be a new idea to many, but we think it is undoubtedly correct. Such is the character of our falls, that trees, very often continue in a growing state till the weather becomes severe. They are then not in a state to bear the change in our winters. Quite often, in March, and even in February we have warm weather and hot suns which scald the unripened shoots of trees and even the bark on their south western exposures enperuse, and the result is that they are killed. He supposed that skirts of timber on the South and West would prevent these disasters to orchards. These skirts of timber on the Prairies must be grown. This can be done by planting out slips from the

cotton wood, the nuts of the Black Walnut and seeds of other trees.

Mr. Edwards, of Lamoile, considered Evergreens as the best protection, that Norway was the fastest growing variety and Mr. Bryant believed that two rows of this Evergreen so planted out as to cover all the space when grown ten years, would be equal in protection to solid buildings.

State Horticultural Society.

This Society held its annual meeting in Bloomington, commencing on the 14th (Tuesday) and ending on the 17th (Friday.) There were some fifty members in attendance, besides others who came to hear the discussions. On Tuesday, L. Ellsworth was chosen President *pro tem.*, and Charles Kennicott, Secretary. A committee was appointed to arrange business for the session; the President thanked those gentlemen who had presented fruit for examination; and members received invitations from citizens to stop with them while remaining in the city, and the Society adjourned till afternoon. At the meeting in the afternoon, the subjects of "fruits, seeds, seedlings, and insects injurious to vegetation," were taken up, and these subjects occupied the attention of the Society until the adjournment.

In the evening, Arthur Bryant, of Bureau county read an interesting and instructive essay on "The Apple Tree and its Diseases." The remainder of the evening was occupied in an animated discussion on the "ornamental branch of Horticulture, and its influence on the minds of the young."

On Wednesday the Society met at 9 o'clock. After some preliminary proceedings, the Society proceeded to elect its officers, for the year ensuing. C. R. Overman, of Bloomington, was elected President; O. B. Galusha, of Lisbon, Corresponding Secretary; Samuel Edwards, of Lamoile, Recording Secretary; Arthur Bryant, of Princeton, Treasurer, and a Vice President for each Congressional District.

M. L. Dunlap was appointed to superintend the preparation of the minutes of the last meeting of the North Western Fruit Growers' Association, for publication. In the afternoon, the discussion was continued on the planting of the seeds of the apple tree, the growth of seedlings

subsequent grafting and other matters. The discussion was continued until the adjournment.

In the evening, Hon. M. L. Dunlap delivered an address on the cultivation of orchards in prairies, replete with important facts. It seemed to be admitted that orchard culture would not be successful without adopting a system of protecting orchards from the vicissitudes of the season, by growing protective skirts of timber on the South and North. The address of Mr. Dunlap was listened to with deep interest. After the address there was a discussion of the merits of evergreen trees as a protection, their mode of culture, and facts were elicited which proved that evergreen trees were of rapid growth; that plants could be obtained with reasonable cheapness, and, if planted out with proper care were as certain to live as deciduous trees.

The Society met on Thursday morning at the usual hour. On invitation of President Hovey, of the State Normal School, the Society in a body visited that institution. The manner in which that school was conducted secured their entire approbation. Prof. Turner delivered a short address, which was well received. The Society returned to the Hall and discussions on various subjects, as connected with fruits, were continued.

In the afternoon resolutions were passed, calling for statistics in regard to the number and value of nurseries in the State; directing the President and Secretary to memorialize the Legislature for laws to protect orchards and nurseries from injury and theft; for the appointment of a committee to prepare a report on the subject of growing evergreens for the protection of farms, dwellings, &c.; the mode of culture and an estimate of the cost of the same; and also a committee to arrange and publish a list with prices of such hardy, ornamental shrubbery as would be desirable to ornament the grounds of our "rural homes."

The subject of small fruits occupied the attention of the Society until night. We could not help but note that the Red Currant, with proper culture, was regarded as the best of all the currants. The Delaware was considered a grape of great value, but there were no varieties that could take the place of the Catawba and Isabella.

In the evening Prof. Torner delivered

a lecture on the "Philosophy of Plowing and Draining." It is not necessary to speak of it further than to say that it was a production worthy of the man and of the time.

The Society closed its labors on Friday noon. Resolutions were adopted expressing the high sense of the Convention in regard to the liberality of the citizens of Bloomington, in furnishing homes to the members of the Convention, while sojourning in their city, and directing the Secretaries of the Society to propose and publish an official report of their proceedings at as early a day as possible. We shall look for the published proceedings, with great interest. We are sure that the vast amount of practical information on Horticultural subjects embraced in the addresses and elicited in the discussions, will be read and appreciated by the Farmers of Illinois.

A Chance for Enterprise.

Mr. J. W. Griffith, residing near Mechanicsburgh, in this county, authorizes us to state, that he will grow two hundred acres of sugar cane, on good ground, and which shall be well cultivated, on his farm, to any responsible man who will engage to take the same, and work it up, at nine dollars an acre. He has a situation for a sugar mill, where plenty of water and fuel can be had, and which will be furnished without expense.

The Illinois Cane Crop.

We are constantly receiving notices of the success of persons who have experimented with the Chinese Sugar Cane; and we hear from many that they intend to go into its cultivation the coming year on a large scale. Our advice is, first to see whether you can get the apparatus to work it up. You should not neglect to do this until your crop is ripe and you have no time to make preparations. The apparatus necessary for working up five or six seres of cane, will cost \$100, and will last several years.

MR. EDITOR:—Have you experience in planting out hedges in the fall.

[We have not; but we know it has been done. We have no doubt the Osage Orange plants can be put out in the fall with success.]

THE BEST PEAR.—At "the Crystal Palace," in England, the premium for the best pear was awarded to the *White Doyenne*. This is also a very superior pear in this country.

Steam Power.

Steam appears to be one of the topics of study just now, to the political economists. Perhaps the most important use to which we could suggest its application, would be that of trenching by means of plows, spades or other means to the depth of 18 inches or two feet—to the clay; and sinking drains as much deeper (performing labor could not so readily be accomplished by muscular power,) if this could be readily and cheaply done, it would double the value of our entire prairies, would make the raising of nearly all the best fruits not only possible, but make ours equal to almost any other country in pomological richness. Apples, grapes, pears, berries, peaches, &c., would be almost perfectly suited, and fine fruits be the pleasure of all. Our crops of corn and wheat, grass and other crops would easily be doubled and our acres reduced and the pleasures and ease of farm labor greatly increased. This certainly is a consummation greatly to be desired.

SAMUEL JACOB WALLACE.

The Hancock Agricultural Society have now ten acres of fine ground, tight fenced, (and ten more for use,) with a fine locust grove inside, fitted up for fair grounds—at Carthage, where a good fair was held the past fall.

Lectures on the Farm.

This is the season of the year when distinguished men of the country, pass from one city to another, and deliver valuable lectures on different subjects, the result of their studies and labors during the summer. These lectures contain a vast deal of useful knowledge, and it is imparted in a way that makes the strongest impression on the mind. It so happens, however, that few or none of these lecturers are agricultural men, and the great interest of the country seems not to be committed in the selection of topics of discussion and education. A great and acceptable good might result if practical farmers, acquainted with more facts than theories, —not mere talking men, fluent without point, wordy without knowledge,—would prepare themselves for the purpose, and visit our counties and our precincts, and lectures for the benefit of our farmers, in the winter months.

One lecturer, with half a dozen well prepared lectures, could extend his labors over a large section of country, and while he would be of essential service in the rural districts, he would find himself handsomely paid for his labors.

We want lecturers that can take the more complicated agricultural implements to pieces, explain the uses of the parts, and put them together, and instruct others how this should be done. For this purpose he could have models for his demonstrations. At this time when agricultural machinery is coming generally into use, how few farmers are there who understand their construction so completely as to be able to discover when they are out of order and will not work, the cause of difficulty? How often do we see in harvest time farmers losing their time in seeking some one to put up their reaping machines, or who can tell the causes why they cannot make them work? It needs a practical man to explain these matters. To be a successful now, he must be something of an engineer. We knew a case where one of Atkins' reapers was condemned and was about to be returned, when it so happened that a practical man, a farmer of some knowledge of mechanics came along, and was able to set the machine at work, and the farmer went on his way rejoicing.

What we want is practical as well as scientific knowledge in an agricultural lecturer. Such men can be found, who with a little practice, would make themselves useful to the community and to themselves individually.

The Sugar Question.

Just at this time the question of making molasses and sugar from the African and Chinese Sugar Canes, seems to have a general interest. Many of our farmers are desirous of all the information they can obtain on the subject. We have already given the experience of many of our correspondents,—and among the communications from R. Kimball, of Delevan, which are of exceeding interest. In our correspondence with Mr. Kimball, we have sought to procure all the information collected by him in his series of experiments. In addition to his general statement in our last number, and the communication in the present, we are

about to take the liberty of making some extracts for publication from a letter received just at the closing up of the forms of this paper for the present month; and to which we invite the special attention of "Sugar Growers."

We asked Mr. Kimball for the reasons of his preference for African Sugar Canes (or Imphees) over the Chinese Sugar Cane, (or Sorgho.) He answers:

"With regard to my preference of Imphees over Sorgho, I have to say: I find the matter to stand thus:—the juice of the Imphee is *considerably sweeter*, and has a much more *sugary taste*; and when it is worked this flavor is discernable in every stage of the process till we arrive at molasses or sugar. Were I only to make molasses, I would prefer Imphee on this account. Our women say, "I would not raise any more Chinese Sugar Cane. The Imphee is much better." Mr. N. and family were with us on a visit. We put on our table some of our molasses to use with biscuit and butter. I remarked to Mr. N. that I thought it about as good as honey. His reply was, "It is much better. I prefer it to honey."

Another reason why I prefer Imphee to Sorgho, is—*the juice is much more easily clarified*. Mr. Wray, (who introduced the Imphee into this country,) makes the same remark. The reason for the fact, I gave in my communication published in your December FARMER; and it was this,—that *the Imphee contained much less mucilage than the Sorgho*. Let me state a circumstance. In my largest batch of Imphee juice I had about forty-five gallons. I then worked a batch of Sorgho juice of sixty gallons. I skimmed my Sorgho all the way through till it had reached the consistency of thick molasses, and left it in the boiler till next morning, and then found on it a scum one and a half inches thick. This scum was very solid,—so much so that lumps of it would settle at the bottom of the syrup. But thinking that it would do to make vinegar, I put it into a vessel and some three or four days after this was done, I went to put this compound into the vinegar barrel, and found some scum yet on the top. I got the skimmer and tried to remove the scum, but could not. I then dipped deeper, and yet could not insert the skimmer under the scum. On examination I found nearly the whole mass a tough mucus that could not be dipped with ladle or skimmer. This mucus gives to the pith of the Chinese Cane a very solid appearance and to the juice thickness and consistency.

"Now I wish here to remark, that I was of the opinion at the time that there was more saccharine matter in the forty-

eight gallons of Imphee juice, than in the sixty gallons of Sorgho juice; and yet the saccharometer stood as high as in the Sorgho as the Imphee. And here I would make one further remark to correct a fallacy that appears to be generally current. The saccharometer is supposed to indicate the amount of saccharine matter in cane juice. This is very uncertain. Mucilage, in which there is not an atom of sweet, will elevate the saccharometer as readily as saccharine matter. Mucilage of gum Arabic will do the same thing. This deception was very apparent this year in the Sorgho juice. Our Sorgho juice this year was very little more than half as valuable as was last year, though the saccharometer did not indicate that difference.

"In regard to your question whether the Imphee will ripen earlier than the Sorgho, I am not fully prepared to answer. My Sorgho was planted out early in April, and the Imphee the first and last of May, as I have already stated. Some of the varieties of the Imphee headed out sooner than the Sorgho; but the Sorgho seemed to come on more rapidly, and I thought got up with the Imphee. On the whole, it appeared to me that they ripened about together. They all ripened well.

"One thing is settled with me;—the Imphee comes up much the quickest after planting, and in favorable weather in from eight to ten days. The Sorgho is said to come in good weather in fifteen to twenty days. [By soaking these seeds they will come up much sooner.—EDITOR.] My Sorgho this year was a month in coming up;—though being planted very early, the ground not being in the best order, it required more time for the seed to germinate. The seed of the Sorgho will lay in the ground all winter without injury.

"I have been examining my molasses to-day, and find much of it granulating. In conclusion I would say, that persons who design to make sugar should have Lovering's pamphlet."

IMPHEE SUGAR FROM AFRICA.—H. S. Oleott Esq., of New Rochelle N. Y., writes to the Editor, under date of Dec. 24th. "At our Farmer's Club on Friday a venerable missionary, a former resident of South Africa, came forward and read details from a letter from a brother missionary in 1832, going to show that at that time a package of Imphee seed, and sample of Sugar (made by his friend, was sent to him.) Do you know of any one in your State who has made good Imphee Sugar?"

We do. Mr. R. Kimball, of Delevan has done it; and so has a gentleman of Grundy county. They made good sugar

without difficulty. They both say that the Imphee juice contains less mucilage than the juice of sorgho, which is the great obstacle to making sugar of the Sorgho. Mr. R. Kimball, of Delevan, Illinois, will respond to letters from Mr. Oleott.

Sugar from Chinese Sugar Cane.

S. FRANCIS, ESQ.,

Chairman of State Committee of Sugar Growers' Convention.

I have delayed making any statement in regard to the Chinese Sugar Cane until I had finished my year's experience. I made the first attempt on the 10th of September, when the tops seeds had begun to turn black; the under ones were barely out of the milk. The result of that trial was about two gallons of very thick syrup. I found crystals of sugar mixed with the syrup when I took it out of the kettle, and in a few days a large portion of it crystalized. At the time I felt very much gratified with the result, and supposing it was a very easy matter to make sugar, little pains was taken to preserve it. The sample herewith sent, marked No. 1, is a portion of the same sugar. It was also exhibited at our county fair.

The next trial with a view of making sugar was about three weeks later. Cane taken from the same lot, but much ripier and on a small scale. The syrup being scorched a little, made the sugar of a reddish cast, although it was a superior article both in taste and grain; it was also exhibited at our county fair and was highly spoken of. This sample was all used up.

I continued through the season to make samples of sugar without any definite and satisfactory result, except to satisfy myself that there is a large percentage of crystalizable sugar in the cane juice, all that is wanted is the requisite skill and good well matured cane produced from the right kind of soil. I would remark here, that the last trial was made on the 13th of Nov. from cane that was cut a few days after the trial in Oct., it had changed in taste perceptibly when cut, after it was cut and put in the house no change took place up to the time it was worked up, which was about four weeks. The result was about two gallons of thick syrup; after standing a few days a considerable portion of it crystalized. At this time it is about like mush, a sample of which is herewith sent marked No. 2.

After expressing the juice I added one table-spoonful of lime water to a common wooden bucket full of juice, two eggs and one pint of sweet milk to about 15 or 20 gallons of the juice, when it was brought to the boil. After the first scum was taken off I added two nut-galls and two ounces of Ivory Black

to the above quantity and boiled down to a thick syrup immediately.

The early cane in this vicinity yielded about one gallon of syrup to six or seven of juice. I used a wooden mill which gave about 45 pounds of juice to 100 pounds cane. I tried several experiments in running the canes through the mill twice, but uniformly found the second run about three-tenths less in weight than the first. The average yield per acre in this vicinity is 160 gallons of syrup, although some small patches might go to 200, but it is not a safe calculation, especially such seasons as the last.

From observation and inquiry, I have become fully satisfied that it is a paying crop to the farmer, providing he goes to work understandingly in the planting and cultivation of his crop. My course hereafter will be to select the lightest soil I can, with a warm exposure, raise my plants as I would cabbages; set them out when six or eight inches high on well prepared ground, which will save much finger weeding, and advance the growth of the cane at least two or three weeks. The past season I have transplanted all sizes from three inches to 2 1-2 feet, with perfect success. Plant as wide apart as you would corn, either in hills or drill, tend the ground well in the early part of the season and I will insure a good crop, if the season is favorable.

There are in this county fourteen or fifteen small wooden and iron mills for expressing the juice. From the best information I can get there was manufactured between four and five thousand gallons of syrup, of a much superior quality to that made last year, although the cane is not quite so rich.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOSIAH SAWYER.

TREMONT, Tazewell Co., Dec. 26, '58.

NOTE.—Accompanying the above report was a note from Mr. Sawyer, in which he says: "I yesterday examined six stone jars of different boilings, and found sugar in five at the bottom, in considerable quantities, which confirms my judgment in regard to the crystalizable sugar in the juice."

CARE OF ROSES.—Tender kinds, will need some protection. Dry straw or leaves are the best material for this purpose. Draw the tops of the plants together and tie them in several places with a string; then place straight rye straw around, and bind in a conical form, or if they stand in a bed, a foot thick of dry leaves may be placed all over the bed and around the plants, with some heavier material to keep them from blowing away. This will most effectually protect the most tender roses. The tops may get killed,

but the roots and lower part of the stem will be uninjured, and when cut down to the live wood they will grow up and bloom as well as ever. This is a much safer method of protection than laying the tops down and covering them with soil, where the latter is heavy and tenacious of moisture. The cold and dampness constantly surrounding the tops, are apt to rot the bark, and indeed to kill the plants you intend to protect. Hybrid perpetual, climbing, and garden or annual roses will need no other protection than a coat of rotted manure laid about their roots, to be forked in the spring. After all the tender plants have been removed and cared for that require it, and others have been protected where they stand, then put your garden in winter order. Clear off and store away dahlia and other stakes, remove to the rubbish heap all decaying stems, tops of plants, and leaves, that will otherwise lay around and look unsightly. Edge all round the beds, borders, and walks with a spade or edging iron, to cut off the grass, &c., that may have grown ever either. This, by defining the edges and giving a clear outline to the whole garden, will of itself add vastly to the good appearance of the place.

BEAT THIS, GENTLEMEN.—Mr. Jno. B. Poyntz, of this vicinity, one of the best farmers in the state, has devoted special attention to raising Milch Cows, and with his imported and thorough bred Alderneys, Jersey, and Devons he challenges the State to a fair trial of the merits of his cows. On Saturday last he brought to our office, a bottle of Milk which he had taken from the bucket into which his two cows, *Bramble*, Alderney, eight years old, and *Jenny Lind*, Jersey five years old, had that morning been milked. These cows have not been fed lately, but are grazing on fair blue grass and he does not consider the specimen to which we refer as a fair average of the milk given by them, under usually favorable circumstances. This milk was just five inches deep, in a bottle with straight sides, and four inches in diameter. After standing twenty four hours, we measured the thickness of the cream, which had arisen, and found it to be exactly one inch—in other words one fifth of the total depth of the milk as it stood in the bottle, was cream. Extraordinary as this statement may seem, we have the best possible reasons for believing that other tests have been repeatedly instituted which resulted more favorably than this as regards the richness of the milk and quantity of cream. We do not believe, however, that this can be beaten by any gentleman in the State; and we will be pleased to publish the result of any experiments that may be made to test it.—*Maysville Express*.

Small Farms.

Editor Farmer:—Send me two copies of your paper—one for J. S., who is the nearest neighbor I have, and he lives a mile off. You must know that when wheat was high and the crops good, I fancied I would make money by extending my farm and growing wheat. I have now four hundred acres of land; and in 1857 and '58 I had nearly three hundred acres in wheat. The crop was destroyed in '57 and nearly so in '58. The raising of wheat has been a losing business with me. Last fall I made up my mind that it would not answer for me to devote my attention to raising wheat. I tried to sell a portion of my land, but could not, and I succeeded in leasing it. I put twenty-five acres only in wheat last fall. My intention is, to give more attention to stock. I like your idea of raising pork. Pork has paid well for years. Sometimes it has been raised with great profit, and I think always has paid for the raising. I can do a good business in this line with seventy-five or a hundred acres of corn—making this my main crop. I can see get into a stock of hogs.

I have made a slave of myself and family in endeavoring to carry on a large farm. I am tired of it. I believe I can make a better living by cultivating a smaller farm, the work of which I can mostly do with the assistance of my boys. I shall have time, too, to attend to my orchard—to fix up my place and to improve its natural beauties. If you have an opportunity, you can inform inquirers for land, in regard to that that I wish to sell. It is in fence within four miles of the Alton & Chicago Railroad, and I will sell it on very reasonable terms. J. E.

Lick Creek Prairie, Dec. 16.

Fall Plowing for Spring Wheat and Oats.

Editor of the Farmer:—I see that some of the correspondents of the Illinois Farmer appear to know but little of the value of Fall plowing for Spring Wheat and Oats. It is universally practical in this County, not only because there is more leisure to plow, and it enables the farmer to sow his grain in better season in the Spring; but because it is generally thought to produce a better crop, especially if plowed early in the fall. Our practice is to turn in the stubble as soon after harvest as other business will permit.

That early fall plowing is better than late. I had the opportunity to witness this year on a field, part of which was plowed the first of September and the balance in November. The field was sowed with wheat in March, across the furrows. That on the early plowing was much more luxuriant during the whole season, and produced better grain. The difference was discernable during the growing season, at the distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile.

Our land is Prairie—some flat and some gently rolling. Oats are much surer to be sold very early, as early as the ground can be worked.

G. N. enquires if there is an early kind of corn that will produce a fair crop? I answer, there is. I have a kind that this year was fit for the Table 15th July, and fairly glazed, 1st of August. It is small, with

small cob, white, 8 rows, and will bear planting very thick. I planted some in March, not thinking it would come up, but it did, and was several days earlier than that planted the last of April. I consider it very valuable for early corn for the table, and early feeding. I will send a sample to any body that will pay the postage.

S. W. ARNOLD.

Enquiries.

Editor of the Farmer:—Can you tell me how to grow White Mustard on a large scale?

Can the Castor Bean be successfully cultivated here?

Will hogs eat the Japan Pea?

Where can these seeds be had?

I have found the best way to raise oats is—to clear the trash from the ground; then sow your oats and plow in the seed two or three inches. Of course this must be dry ground. It would be well to roll or harrow the ground afterwards. The work must be done early in spring. J. S.

ANSWERS.—Mustard seed can be sown broadcast,—though it would probably do better drilled in. The ground should be well prepared, should be clean, and less seed is required than to sow the same ground with turnips.

In good seasons, Castor Beans can be raised in this latitude. Several farmers in Christian country raised crops last season.

Hogs will eat Japan Peas; but the crop is not considered profitable.

White Mustard Seed, Castor Beans and Japan Peas, can be had at the seed stores in St. Louis. These would be obtained by our correspondent more conveniently from that point than any other.

A STEAM CARRIAGE FOR COMMON ROADS.—The New Haven Palladium of December 3d, had just made a thorough examination of Gold's new steam carriage, which he has just invented and now completed for use upon turnpikes, farms, or wherever such a carriage may be needed for draft or travel. The Palladium says "it is indeed a new wonder—another marvel of the age. Its size is six by sixteen feet, and its weight is two and a half tons." On a common turnpike it can draw twenty tons with great facility. "It has four wheels, the two front are common carriage wheels, except that their diameter is much greater.—The wheels are turned by a small crank and thus the whole thing is steered. It may be turned completely about in a road of thirty feet in width. The back or driving wheels are covered with shoes, between each of which are small grooves, so that the wheels are can take hold of the road and not slide upon soft or icy tracks."

The machine can be made of all sizes. The Palladium says they will be brought into common use in a short time and it thinks will take the lead of similar contrivances.

The Garden.

The garden is a bound volume of agricultural life written in poetry. In it the farmer and his family set the great industries of the plow, spade, and hoe, in rhyme. Every flower or fruit bearing tree is a green syllable after the graceful type and curse of Eden. Every bed of flowers is an acrostic to Nature, written in the illustrated capitals of her own alphabet. Every bed of beets, celery, or savory roots or bulbs, is a page of blank verse, full of the *belles lettres* of agriculture. The farmer may be seen in his garden. It contains the synopsis of his character in letters that may be read across the road. The barometer hung by his door will indicate certain facts about the weather, but the garden, lying on the sunny side of the house, will mark, with greater precision, the degree of mind, heart culture which he has reached. It will embody and reflect his tastes, the bent and bias of his perceptions of grace and beauty. In it he holds up the mirror of his inner life to all who pass; and, with an observant eye, they may see all the features of his intellectual being in it. In that choice rood of earth he records his progress in mental cultivation and professional experience. In it he marks, by some intelligent sign, his scientific and successful economies in the corn field. In it you may see the germs of his reading, and can almost tell the number and nature of his books. In it he will reproduce the seed thoughts he has called from the printed pages of his library. In it he will post an answer to the question whether he has any taste for reading at all. Many a nominal farmer's house has been passed by the book agent without a call, because he saw a blunt, bruff negative to the question in the garden or yard.—*Elihu Burritt.*

FRUIT IN ITALY.—An American traveler says:—"I have not yet seen either in the markets or grape yards of Southern Europe anything that would compare with the fruit displayed at our annual shows. Not only in the large grape yield, but in other kinds of fruit, this will be a bountiful year in Tuscany. Figs, pears and peaches are in uncommon abundance; indeed, the last named are about as plenty, good and cheap as with us during a favorable season in New Jersey. Of fresh figs, fifteen to twenty, can be bought for a crazia, little more than our cent. The olive yield does not promise so well as usual, which may oblige the Florentines after this, to pay a little more for the oil they burn in their lamps and eat on their salads. The past summer has been a very comfortable one in this part of Italy. There were only a few days of excessive heat, and, indeed, rarely is any great inconvenience felt on that account."

Microscopic Wonders.

Among the most remarkable of those myriads of animals which exist in every drop of water, is the navicula—a little creature which has some twenty or thirty legs, and is endowed by Nature with an armor of flint. In a paper which was recently laid before one of the scientific societies of London, some curious facts concerning this diminutive animal were stated. Among other things it was mentioned that if an observer watches narrowly for five or six hours, he will note a thin transparent line spreading across it in some direction. After the line makes its first appearance it becomes every moment more distinct, and rapidly increases in width. At length the creature begins wriggling its limbs violently the body splits asunder, and two new naviculæ are made out of one old one. The animal has something like a hundred stomachs, and its mouth, which is situated, near one extremity, is surrounded by a number of almost invisible tentacula, with which it grasps its food; but as soon as the transparent line appears, which denotes its approaching division into two as another mouth will be wanted, another is seen sprouting from the other extremity, and is ready to perform its functions as soon as the separation is effected.—The navicula divides itself in two, once in twelve hours, under ordinary circumstances. But there are some kinds of naviculæ which split themselves into sixteen instead of two in the same space of time. Were there no checks to the increase, a single one of the tribe would become the producer of many hundred millions or creatures in a month.—*Port-folio*.

FATTENING SHEEP.—About the beginning of October, I set apart the sheep that I intend to make fat, put them into good pastures, and give them a little grain once or twice a day; one bushel of grain at this season is better than two bushels in cold weather. When winter begins to set in, I prefer a shed open to the south, with cribs to hold their food. In the morning I give them peas in the straw, cut green, and turnips after; a couple of sheaves of oats at noon, and turnips and peas at night. Common sheep, fed in this way, can be made in the spring worth \$8 or \$10. Those that are disposed to feed sheep or cattle, ought to raise the e or four acres of Swedish turnips; feeding on grain is expensive, and sometimes does not pay very well. Give them plenty of litter, and as many turnips as they can eat, and you will have a heap of manure that will pay you for your trouble, and of far more value than all the composts of all leaves, old shoes and old trash, that you can scrape together.—*Genesee Farmer*.

THE GOLD FEVER.—There is likely to be a malignant, contagious gold fever the coming year. The average of the news from the neighborhood of Pike's Peak is, that gold is found there, and that persons engaged in washing earth for it, can make fair wages. We notice that companies are being organized in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri, to go out in the spring to the diggings. We shall be disappointed if twenty thousand or more of the excitable population of the States and Territories named, do not take up the line of march for the regions of the setting sun as soon as spring opens. If this is done, farm hands will be in demand next summer.

UNITED STATES vs. ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The following are the entries made at the fairs of these societies last fall:

United States Society.	Illinois Society.
Cattle.....110	Cattle.....186
Horses, Jacks, &c.....191	Horses, &c.....373
Sheep.....51	Sheep.....146
Swine.....24	Swine.....59
Poultry.....39	Poultry.....21
Farm department.....368	Farm department.....376
Mechanical articles.....134	Mechanical articles.....423
Art and utility.....74	Art and utility.....97
	Textile fabrics.....92
	Plowing match.....13
Entries.....991	Entries.....1,788

This is a good exhibit for Illinois.

Editor Farmer:—Do you know of anybody in this section of the country who has succeeded well with dwarf pears.

[Professor Turner, of Jacksonville, has succeeded well with the Bartlett on quince stocks. They grow in his garden—warm, dry ground, and are unquestionably well taken care of.]

RICH MILK.—Mr. Prentice, of Albany, states, that his Ayrshire cows produce one pound of butter from six quarts of milk. Mr. Norton, of Connecticut, has Alderneys which do better than this. The general average in dairies is said to be one pound of butter from fifteen quarts of milk.

DURATION OF LIFE OF ANIMALS.—The following table of the duration of life in certain animals is translated from an old German work; The cricket, ten years; spider, one; carp, one hundred to one hundred and fifty; pike, forty; crocodile, one hundred; tortoise, one hundred; hen ten; peacock, twenty four; nightingale and lark, sixteen to eighteen; canary, (if it does not couple), twenty four; canary, (if it breeds annually), ten; sparrow hawk, forty; goose, fifty; swan, one hundred; eagle, one hundred; parrot, one hundred and ten; rabbit, from eight to nine; goat, ten; sheep, ten; hog, twenty; cat, eighteen; squirrel, seven; hare, from seven to eight; dog, from twenty three to twenty-eight; wolf, twenty; bear, twenty; fox, fifteen; lion, sixty; cow, twenty; bull, thirty; ox, (draught), nineteen; deer, twenty; horse, from twenty-five to thirty; ass, from twenty-five to fifty; camel, from fifty to sixty; elephant, one hundred and fifty to two hundred.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE IN THE EAST.—Several new fields for American enterprise in Asia appear to be opening at once. Japan and China are not the only ones. While Europe

has been either ignorant or doubtful of the immense importance of the River Amoor, (a stream hardly inferior to the Mississippi,) running between the Russian and the Chinese possessions, quite a number of Yankee merchants and sea captains have found it out, and have been taking advantage of it. Several cargoes of sugar were the first consignment ventured to this region. The Central Asiatics were not only surprised, but greatly gratified by the unexpected supplies, at a much cheaper rate than their previous overland supplies had ever been afforded. Sugar fell in price 30 per cent. at Novgorod, and the Americans made a handsome speculation out of their undertaking.

This is only an example of what can be done with numerous other commodities, manufactured and agricultural. A large and increasing population along the river, offers a steady and profitable market for our productions. By way of Panama and California, we can contend successfully with England for the control of the greater part of it.—*Albany Journal*

WILL OF AN EARL OF PEMBROKE.—*Imprimis*—For my soul, I confess I have heard very much of souls, but what they are, or whom they are, or what they are for. God knows; I know not; they tell me now of another world, where I never was; nor do I know one foot of the way thither. While the King stood, I was of his religion, made my son wear a cassock, and thought to make him a bishop; then came the Scots and made him a Presbyterian; and since Cromwell entered I have been an Independent. These, I believe, are the kingdom's three estates, and if any of these can have a soul, I may claim one: therefore, if my executors find that I have a soul, I give it to him who gave it to me.—*Item.* I give my deer to the Earl of Salisbury, who I know will preserve them, because he denied the King a buck out of his own parks.—*Item.* I give nothing to Lord Say; which legacy I give him, because I know he will bequeath it on the poor.—*Item.* To Tom May I give five shillings: I intended him more; but whoever has seen his "History of Parliament," thinks five shillings too much.—*Item.* I give Lieutenant Cromwell one word of mine, because hitherto he never kept his own.—*Item.* I give up the ghost.

Effects of Late Hours.

From a recent trial we learn that a new woman's profession is known in England—that of a "face painter," or "ladies' decorator." The mistress of this art attends ladies who go to balls, &c., beautifies their complexion, and arranges their teeth, besides dressing their hair, and attending to the making up of their persons generally. Some who pursue this business can produce the required quality of paleness or color to suit various times and circumstances, and can make the subject languidly interesting or brilliantly handsome, from the contents of a small box. It probably will not be long ere some such profession is in practice in New York—late hours and dissipation making sad ravages on the health and beauty of our fashionable women.

There is one custom which, though universally prevalent, is advocated by none, and is complained of by all—most bitterly by those who are most the slaves to it—viz: that of turning night into day at parties. The necessity of going at ten o'clock, when the powers of nature require rest instead of further taxation, draws fatally on the constitutional strength of the individual. All the vivacity and gaiety requisite for making a brilliant appearance, must, after that hour, be derived from artificial stimulus of some kind; and if the body be not fed with exciting food or drink to supply the fount of vigor, the brain and the emotional nature must be taxed for that purpose. This unnatural condition continues during the hours given to social assemblies of the kind—perhaps from ten to

Illinois Agricultural Society.

The State Agricultural Board have made the following award of premiums for farms.

To S. H. Elliott, of Edgar co. for the most highly cultivated farm, gold medal.

To Sylvester Ryder, of Payne co. for first best farm 160 acres, gold medal.

For the second best to A. G. Carle, of Champaign co. silver medal.

To A. & O. Bernard, of McLean co. for first best farm, of 40 acres, gold medal.

To J. T. Allison, of Whiteside co. for second best, silver medal.

To J. M. Blackburne, of Edgar co. for best grazing farm, gold medal.

To F. L. Scott, of Champaign co. for second best, silver medal.

To L. Ellsworth, of Du Page co. for best nursery, gold medal.

To A. R. Whitney, of Lee co. for second best, silver medal.

To L. H. Thomas, of Macoupin Co., best grove of timber, gold medal.

The following are the awards for premium Essays:

"On the raising of Sheep and their adaptation to prairies." A. B. McConnel, \$10.

"On the cultivation of Orchards," to C. R. Overman, \$10.

"On Agriculture as connected with common schools," to Miss L. A. Platt, Silver Medal.

"On Practical Gardening in Illinois," \$40.

"On rearing domestic fowls," to B. C. Beament, of New York, \$10.

"On the culture of rice in Illinois," to J. Russell, \$10.

To Mrs. H. M. L. Cutler, of Grundy, was awarded the first premium for maple sugar.

To D. C. B. Ostrander, of Livingston Co., was awarded the first premium for best specimens of sugar from the Sorghum.

To H. E. Walton, Macoupin Co. was awarded the first premium for Syrup from the Chinese Cane; the second best to B. Van Henton, third, to Orin Sholes, of Whitesides.

The following are the awards made of Field Crops:

Best 40 acres Spring Wheat, Hugh Hulls, of St. Charles.

Best 20 acres Fall Wheat, Jas. Erwin, of Randolph Co.

Best 15 acres Drilled Wheat, Hugh Hulls, of St. Charles.

Best 10 acres Drilled Wheat, Hugh Easdale.

Best Crop Fall Wheat, Hugh Easdale, of Randolph.

Best Crop Indian Corn, same.

Best Crop Rye, Harrison Hancock, of Tazewell.

Best Crop White Beans, same.

Best Crop Irish Potatoes, same.

Best Crop Sweet Potatoes, Michael Jowe, Madison Co.

Best acre of Clover Seed, Hugh Hulls.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting of the State agricultural Society, held at the Hall of the House of Representatives on Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected.

President—Louis Ellsworth, of DuPage Co.

Vice Presidents—1st District, C. B. Denio, of Jo Daviess; 2nd District, W. H. Van Epps; 3rd District, John Gerard, of Vermilion; 4th District, Alva Dunlap, of Peoria; 5th District, J. W. Singleton, of Adams; 6th District, Stephen Dunlap, of Morgan; 7th District, Wm. Kyle, of Edgar; 8th District, S. B. Chandler, of St. Clair; 9th District, H. S. Osborne, of Perry.

Recording Secretary—John Cook, of Sangamon.

Corresponding Secretary—S. Francis, of Sangamon.

Treasurer—J. W. Bunn, of Sangamon.

Go to bed Early.

To all young persons, to students, to the sedentary, and to invalids, the fullest sleep that the system will take, without artificial means, is the balm of life—without it there can be no restoration to health and activity again. Never wake up the sick or infirm, or young children, of a morn—it is a barbarity; let them wake of themselves, let the care be to establish an hour for retiring, so early that their fullest sleep may be out before sunrise.

Another item of very great importance is: Do not hurry up the young and the weakly. It is no advantage to pull them out of bed so soon as their eyes are open, nor is it best for the studious, or the well who have passed an unusually fatiguing day, to jump out of bed the moment they wake until the sense of weariness passes from their limbs. Nature abhors two things: violence and a vacuum. The sun does not break at once into the glare of the meridian. The diurnal flowers unfold themselves by slow degrees; nor fleetest beast, nor sprightliest bird, leaps at once from its resting place.

By all of which we mean to say, that as no physiological truth is more demonstrable than that the brain, and with it the whole nervous system, is recuperated by sleep, it is of the first importance, as to the well being of the human system that it have its fullest measure of it, and to that end, the habit of retiring to bed early should be made imperative on all children, and no ordinary event should be allowed to interfere with it. Its moral healthfulness is not less important than its physical. Many a young woman, has made the first step towards degradation, and crime, and disease, after ten o'clock, at night, at which hour, the year round, the old, the middle aged, and the young, should be in bed, and then the early rising will take care of itself, with the incalculable accompaniment of a fully rested body and a renovated brain. We repeat it, there is neither wisdom, nor safety, nor health, in early rising in itself; but there is all of them in the persistent practice of retiring to bed at an early hour, Winter and Summer.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

The Distinguished Dead of 1858.

Death has reaped a rich harvest during the year that is now closing. In our own country, the following distinguished men have died during the year, viz: Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Gen. Persifer F. Smith, Commodore Matthew C. Perry, Major General John Anthony Quitman, Hon. Josiah J. Evans, U. S. Senator of South Carolina, General James Pinckney Henderson, U. S. Senator of Texas, Anson Jones, Ex-President of Texas, Rev. Eleazer Williams, (the "Dauphin") Hon. Benjamin F. Butler, (President Jackson's Attorney General of the United States,) Right Rev. Henry Ustick Onderdonk, besides a number of other prominent men, less generally known.

In foreign countries, we have a formidable list of distinguished personages who died during the year, among whom the following are the most prominent: General Sir Henry Havelock, of Great Britain; Redschid Pasha, one of the most distinguished statesmen of the Turkish Empire; Field Marshal Count Joseph Radetzky, of the Austrian army; Major Armand, a veteran of the old Imperial army of France; General Sir Ralph Darling; of the British army; General Count Ventura, of France; Dr. William Gregory, the great chemist of the University of Edinburgh; Achmet Pasha, heir apparent to the pashalic of Egypt; the Duchess Helene Louise Elizabeth d'Orleans, of France; Col. Lepmanhosky, an illustrious Pole; Lurgi Lablance, the greatest singer of the present century, at Naples; Mademoiselle Elizabeth Rachael Felix, the great French tragedienne; Ali Ghalib Pacha, son in law of the Sultan of Turkey; M. Poccianti, of Florence, one of the most eminent architects of Italy;

Robert Brown, the eminent Scottish botanist; Ary Schaffer, an eminent French painter; Luis G. Osolo, a distinguished military leader in Mexico; Don Valentine Gomez Farias, ex-President of Mexico; Lenor Jose Gregoria Monagas, President of Venezuela; Prince Ghika, of Montenegro; Baron Ward of Austria; Madame Pfeiffer, the great female traveler; Count Esterhazy, Austrian minister to Prussia; Stanley Giffard, LL D., editor of the London Standard; Robert Owen, the distinguished Socialist, of Wales, Admiral Edmund Lord Lyons, of England.

This list of distinguished persons who have died within the year, could be extended to a much greater length, but we have chosen to give only the more prominent. But how many hundreds of the obscure great, of men and women who had in their day and generation been true heroes in life, but not distinguished in the world, have also "gone hence" during the last months! How great is the army that death yearly enlists in this world of mortality!

GOLD IN ILLINOIS.—Prof. McChesney, Assistant State Geologist, thinks he can find gold in most of the northern counties of this State. He has already found it in many, and thinks that he can find it in seventy counties in this State.

FIRES IN CHICAGO IN 1858.—During the year 1858 there were 48 fires in Chicago, causing losses in the aggregate, to \$334,125. Eleven lives were also lost, by fire, in the same time. During the year 1857, there were 48 fires attended by the loss of 25 lives, and \$1,525,000 worth of property.

COMMERCIAL.**St. Louis Market—Jan. 6.**

FLOUR—Demand very small for all kinds. Some report ed were confined to 200 bbls cito superfine at \$5, and 70 bbls country do at \$4 75.

BARLEY—Market inactive, and the only sale reported was of 300 bags spring at 55c, sacks returned.

RYE—Sale of 30 sacks at 70c per bushel.

HEMP—Sales from store 315 bales from \$80 to \$100.

LEAD—Sales 300 pigs soft Missouri at \$5 12½.

WHISKY—The market is dull, but unchanged. Sales to-day comprise 347 bbls; in lots, at 23c per gallon.

HIDES—15 and 7c for flint and salt.

FRUIT—A lot of 870 bags dried apples was sold at \$2 per bushel.

HAY—Sales 40 bales fair at 70c, and 30 bales choice at 90c per 100 lbs.

PROVISIONS—Lard in tierces at 10c per lb.

Chicago Market.—January 3.

FLOUR—Quiet. Sales to-day were: 100 bbls choice Illinois white winter at \$5 75. Spring extra nominal at \$3 75 @ 4.

WHEAT—Sales to-day were: 2,000 bushels No. 2 spring (G. & G's house) at 60c in store; 2,000 bushels do (Sturges) at 70c in store.

CORN—Nery scarce. Sales to-day 4 ears ear corn at 50c on track.

OATS—300 bushels choice new oats in bags delivered, at 50c; 100 bushels do at 47c on track.

RYE—60@65c per 60 lbs at depot.

BARLEY—Nominal at 40@70c for State, and \$1 10@1 20 for Canadian.

HIGHWINE—Nominal at 22c.

PROVISIONS—Quiet but firm at the following quotations: Mess pork \$16 38@16 50; bulk meats 5½c shoulders, 7c for sides, and 7½c for hams, packed.

LARD—Firm at 10½@10¾c.

New York Cattle Market.—Jan. 4.

A. M. Allerton & Co., proprietors of the Washington Drove Yard, Forty fourth street, report the cattle in market from the following States:

New York.....	1,455	Iowa.....	63
Ohio.....	558	Connecticut.....	70
Indiana.....	48	New Jersey.....	18
Illinois.....	338	Michigan.....	102
Pennsylvania.....	45		

Number reported for this market at Forty fourth st., 2,732

The prices to-day are quoted as follows:

First quality.....	10	@10½c.
Medium.....	8½	@ 9c.
Ordinary.....	7	@ 8c.
Some extra good Beeves.....	11	@12c.
The general average of the market at hardly 9.		
The most of the sales range from.....	8	@9½c.

B. F. FOX,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Saws, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREHOUSE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Bolts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bells, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Steplee's Morticing Machines, Files, &c.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Buttresses, &c.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, &c.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholm's Butcher's and other's, Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Cutters, &c. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS.

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and double barrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a Hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Roseates, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Pouches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Muslin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Bows, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belting, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.

May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX.

THE ILLINOIS**Mutual Fire Insurance Co.**

LOCATED AT ALTON ILLINOIS.

CHARTERED FEB. 23, 1839. ORGANIZED APRIL 4, 1839.

Amount of premium notes in force February 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of Losses,

\$800,000.00,

Secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over

\$9,000,000!

THIS company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the State, from

LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE!

The Directors feel justified in recommending this company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member, the company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks, the capital of the company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this company is so low, as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LYMAN TRUMBULL, ELIAS HUBBARD, L. KELLENBERGER,
BENJ. F. LONG, SAMUEL WADE, ALFRED DOW,
ROBERT SMITH, JOHN JAMES, BENJ. K. HART,
TIMOTHY TURNER, HENRY LEA, JOHN BAILLACHE,
M. G. ATWOOD, NATH'L HANSON, JOHN ATWOOD.

BENJAMIN F. LONG, President.

LEWIS KELLENBERGER, Treas. M. O. ATWOOD, Sec'y.

An Agent for this Company may be found in almost every County of the State.

Application for insurance may be made to JAMES L. HILL, Agent, at Springfield.

STAR CORN MILL,

For Grinding Corn, Cob, Hominy or Meal and General Stock Feed.

WE DELIVER THIS MILL AT ANY point, or from our wagons, that run through the different parts of the country, at the manufacturer's retail price, which is, for the mill complete, \$60.

Orders, or letters of inquiry should be addressed to HUNT, PYKE & Co., Springfield, Ill.

We need but say that where the Star Mill has been used, it has gained credit beyond all other Mills now in use; and the farmer only needs to see and try it in order to become convinced that it is perfect in its arrangement from the fact that it grinds green as well as old corn, (corn and cob passing through it together,) which no other Mill will do. Farmers and stock-growers can save from 30 to 40 bushels of corn in each 100 by the use of this Mill; (at least we have certificates to that effect.) Persons having once experienced its benefit, will never return to the wasteful practice of feeding corn in the ear.

It will undoubtedly make good meal of shelled corn for family use.

The Mill grinds from twelve to twenty bushels per hour, and makes an easy draft for two horses.

We can produce first premiums, diplomas, and recommendations too numerous to mention.

For full particulars, references and description of Mills, see circulars.

N. B.—Persons can be supplied with a Star Mill, and also see one in operation by calling at the Agricultural Store of

FRANCIS & BARRELL,
Authorized Agents.

Jan 1, 1858

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,

J. J. Short,

John W. Beck,

John Kavanaugh,

Sangamon county, Jan 1st, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER, Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

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B. B. LLOYD, DENTIST,

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Loose, J. S. Condeh, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 1855.

Sw et Potat Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (see advertisement of early Nansensmond potatoes) feb1

FRANCIS & BARRELL.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR POTASH!**CONCENTRATED LYE!**

A FAMILY ARTICLE.

For making soap without lime, and with little or no trouble and trifling expense.

THE CHEAPEST AND MOST CONVE- NIENT article ever offered to the public for that purpose. EVERY FAMILY can make all the soap they use from their ordinary kitchen grease and this Lye. Nothing else is required.

ONE POUND BOX will make 25 gallons of fine soft soap, or nine pounds of elegant hard soap, and several gallons of soft.

A single trial will convince any one of its great utility and cheapness.

PRINTERS, and all others using a strong Lye, will find the "Concentrated" three hundred per cent. cheaper than anything else they can use.

For sale by all the Druggists and Grocers in the country.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!

Manufactured only by the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company, Pittsburg, Pa., who manufacture extra superfine snow white TABLE, DAIRY and PORK PACKERS SALT, warranted free from all impurities, and the only really pure salt made in this country.

Caustic soda, for soap makers, soda ash, refined soda ash, sal soda, bleaching powder, bleaching liquor, manganese, nitric acid, muriatic acid, aqua fortis, chloroform, soda saleratus.

sept6-daw4m farmer2m

For sale wholesale and retail, by

J. B. FOSSELMAN, Druggist.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Dere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style, Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

Ox Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kinds of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention

Sept., 1858—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

All of said articles can be had on application to Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

Western Land Office.**T. S. MATHER.**

FOR THE

PURCHASE AND SALE OF CITY PRO- perty, Farms and Unimproved Lands,

PAYMENT OF TAXES,

Collection of Claims.

Government Lands

ENTERED WITH WARRANTS OR CASH IN ANY LAND DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, MISSOURI, MINNESOTA OR NEBRASKA.

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Office over N. H. Ridgely's Bank, West side Public Square, Springfield, Ills.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES SHUABERY, &c.

S. FRANCIS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL., will receive orders for all description of trees from the DuPage County Nurseries, L. Ellsworth & Co., proprietors. These trees are well grown, healthy, and their genuineness is warranted. Orders for fall planting can be forwarded to them at any time from June till November.

Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

aug

QUEENSWARE.

A LARGE LOT DIRECT FROM THE potteries in England, to be sold at very low prices by FRANCIS & BARRELL.

aug

Drills.

ON HAND, FOR SALE, THE BEST varieties grain drills. FRANCIS & BARRELL.

A detailed woodcut illustration of a cornucopia overflowing with various goods, including food, clothing, and tools, with the words "The Corn" arched above it. The cornucopia is a large, ornate vessel with a central figure, possibly a personification of the earth or a deity, surrounded by a variety of produce. The goods spill out in all directions, filling the scene with a sense of abundance. The background shows a landscape with a river, a bridge, and a city in the distance. The overall style is characteristic of 19th-century book illustrations.

NO. 2

Another species is that sometimes called

the bark borer, from its feeding exclusively upon the *cambium* immediately beneath the bark, never penetrating deeper into the wood except to pass the winter. This species, I think, remains in the tree but one year. I do not know the insect in its perfect form; the worm is smaller than the preceding species, its body is flattened; with the joint next the head twice as broad as any other part of its body. It rarely, if ever, attacks apple trees, except where the smooth bark is exposed to the full power of the sun, or has been otherwise rendered unhealthy by bruising, laceration or injudicious pruning. There are no external indications of its presence until after its work has been accomplished. Its attacks may be prevented by the washes above mentioned, and by protecting the stems from the sun. Young trees which are made to lean towards the north-east by the prevailing south-west winds are frequently attacked by this insect on the south-west side, particularly if the stems are long and naked. To prevent this, trees in exposed situations should be set leaning towards the south-west and allowed to form low heads. Any young tree grown in an open situation will, if permitted, protect its stem with branches and leaves, and cultivators will do well to take a lesson from nature in this respect.

The apple worm has of late taken a prominent place among the insect enemies of the cultivator. Time was, not many years since, when this pest was hardly known in our orchards; the past season almost the entire product of many was destroyed or greatly injured by it. The worms are produced from the eggs deposited by a kind of moth in the blossom end of the fruit, in June.—The best mode of checking their ravages is probably the destruction of the worm-eaten fruit immediately after it falls, either by gathering it up and feeding it to animals, or by keeping swine in the orchard. A neighbor of mine, who has for the last two summers adopted the latter practice, had this year by far the best crop of apples in that vicinity.

The worm leaves the apple soon after it falls, and seeks the tree, where it spins a cocoon, and winters in some place of concealment. Probably many of them might be destroyed by scraping the trees in spring, and washing them with strong ley or a solution of potash. Small fires kindled in the orchard after dusk, in June, are said, I know not with what truth, to attract and destroy the moth as well as other mischievous insects.

The fire blight, although less commonly fatal to the apple than the pear tree, has, nevertheless, done much injury to the orchards of this State. It is not my purpose, at present, to enlarge upon this subject, about which so much has been said and written, and the discussion of which has been so unsatisfactory as far as practical results are concerned. Various causes of this disease have been assigned, but nothing certain is yet known respecting its origin. Some eminent cultivators have strongly insisted that hot, moist weather—showers, alternating with sunshine—is essential to produce the disease; but those who, in this State, have carefully observed it in its frequent

recurrence during the last fifteen years, know well that here, at least, no such concatenation of circumstances is necessary for its development; but that at any time, while the tree is growing—in spring, summer or autumn—in dry and cool as well as in hot and moist weather—it may appear in all its virulence. Trees growing in all the different soils and exposures of Northern Illinois have been affected by it. Certain localities, it is true, have hitherto escaped; an exemption for which no satisfactory reason can be assigned. It attacks all the species of the *Pyrus* family, as well as some kinds of forest trees, with which they have no affinity. In most cases only the terminal shoots and small branches of apple trees are affected by it, and they may then be expected eventually to recover; but where, as not unfrequently happens, it attacks the trunk or large branches, it destroys the tree.

The remedy commonly proposed for this disease is cutting away the affected branches down to the sound wood, and burning them. In large orchards, and trees of considerable size, the application of this remedy is simply impracticable; where it is not so, my own experience leads me to consider it about as efficacious as the whisk of a conjuror's wand. Accident or investigation and experiment may, perhaps, disclose some effectual remedy; in the meantime, we must bear its visitations as we best may. For three years past, it has scarcely appeared at all. It may, like some epidemics among the human race, gradually die out and disappear.

Another difficulty in the way of apple culture arises from the sudden and great vicissitudes of our climate, combined with the stimulating richness of our soil. This branch of my subject, embracing in its bearing the consideration of the hardiness of varieties, and of different modes of propagation and cultivation, with other matters, takes altogether too wide a range for the limits of the present essay. I shall, therefore, content myself with making a few desultory remarks. And first, I object to the disposition so generally manifested, to make the effects of the late severe winters a test of the hardiness of varieties. These who do so appear to me to make the mistake—a great though a common one—of thinking that a particular instance establishes a general proposition. If the fact be established that the same degree of cold experienced during those winters will, under ordinary circumstances, destroy certain varieties, then, indeed, it is all right. But it would seem that an examination of the lists of hardy, half-hardy and tender varieties, made out by different cultivators, is sufficient to convince any one of the futility of such attempts at classification. I have seen no two that agree. Some cultivators rank the Early Harvest, Porter, Red Canada, American Golden Russet and Fallenwater or Fallenwalder, as perfectly hardy—the Red Astracan, Fameuse and White Winter Pearmain, as tender. Others consider the former as tender and the latter as hardy. Probably there are scarcely half a dozen varieties in general cultivation that would be considered hardy by all. Even the Yellow Bellflower and Small Romanite did not in all instances escape. Many other considerations might be urged to the same effect; but these must

suffice for the present. I will close by proposing two or three subjects for the consideration of my horticultural brethren. First, whether healthier and longer lived orchards cannot be grown in the soil usually called barren than on rich prairies. Whether it is good policy to stimulate young orchard trees with manure, and whether nursery trees so stimulated are as hardy as those grown without manure? And finally, are young trees which make a very rapid growth during the first season from the bud or graft, ever afterward as hardy as those which have grown more slowly at the outset?

Gold Digging.

Wealth, substance, property, money, must be slowly acquired to produce the best results. Labor to be beneficent must be employed on useful things, in pursuits that have some connection with our wants and necessities. Mining for the precious metals is the farthest removed from these, if we except disreputable employments. Young men who go to the mines should remember, if successful, that they acquire unsettled habits, that they will throw off with difficulty; they will have a distaste for staid pursuits, and will find, ere long, that wealth, suddenly acquired, does not bring with it the enjoyment they expected, for this is not the order of material development, that seeks successive steps in all its attainment.

We are satisfied that wealth without corresponding cultivation, without a broadening of our views and duties, is not the good that the imagination makes of it. We do not say that the happiness all consists in the acquisition. We believe there is a great deal in the possession, but only as a consequence of a strictly beneficent use of our means. There are now in this country and in Europe men of wealth, who use it for the general good—they may not use it for strictly philanthropic purposes, but they have generous natures, are always doing something, spending freely, circulating their means, helping weak and worthy projects, and thus fulfil successfully the end of their being. But these men stand at the head of the civilization of their time, and this civilization will demand nothing less of them.

The associations connected with gold digging are of the less favorable kind. Young men leave employments that are not selfish in their ends, for one that is decidedly so. He who sets types may consider himself the dispenser of no little good to others, and thus through the trades and professions there is a mutual dependency existing that does not appear so marked in connexion with these mining operations. Then again men leave pursuits and places that they cannot so well fill again. They lose time and money in going, coming, and in preparation.

There is no female hand to help them, none of the restraints that other society imposes, but a carelessness succeeds, of not only person and appearance, but in the value of their earnings, in the very mammon itself that has become their divinity. That man cannot live alone, was one of the earliest announcements, that has gained strength with successive ages; but here woman cannot enter, her very tastes and susceptibilities would revolt. She would be out of her orbit in scenes so rough and uncongenial as are here presented. Without women, without children, or with but few of them; without schools or provision for learning, or but poorly encouraged, what can be expected of man but that he should lapse into barbarism? Men can scarcely go on these enterprises without leaving families, mothers, sisters, some one dependent on them, at home, that are harassed with cases and suspense, though, if the ties become weakened or dissolved, worse yet for the parties concerned, that such temptations should have been permitted to rupture the smooth current of their life!—Women fear these mining adventures, and well they may; they are the greatest sufferers by them.

We knew a party of young men from staid New England, that so lost their balance at eight and ten dollars per day, that they could not work, did not work, would not work, and the major part of them became little better than vagabonds. Could they have scooped up gold by the shovel full it would have been the same. The thing had lost its value in their new surroundings, and without solicitude or care, nothing remained for them but neglect and improvidence. How many are there in any community that succeed to wealth and competence? Not many; and rely upon it, the ratio of success will not be disturbed in mining. It will be the lesser fraction, and not the greater, that will return unsuccessful.

In the dispensation of railroads and telegraphs, the ease and rapidity of communication, the different parts of the world are put nearly on a par in the results derived from labor. No one department continues favored or depressed for a length of time, but soon reaches the general level. Gradation is the law of progress. It requires a well disciplined mind to use even a moderate degree of success with advantage or credit to itself. There is not much use in saying that money is a secondary consideration, but if we have to lose all balance of character, all respect for stationary life and quiet pursuits, become alienated from home and kindred, then we may well doubt if respectable poverty is not better. There is no need certainly for all this, but the liability to it is

very great with those who embark in these enterprises. Let them weigh well the cost, the expense, the risks we have named, ere they undertake them.

Again, what farmer boy would lose his home, the incitements that are constantly presented in his pursuits, the elevation attending increased knowledge, the duties that pertain to the family relation, for gain that is precarious, that has little in it that is commendable as a means, much that is damaging to the character, that is impermanent as a vocation? Gambling is very common at the mines, and very subtle in its influence over the excitable spirits of the young. Money is spent much after the manner in which it is earned. If it come by chance, it will go in the same way, or by other lawless expenditure. If the miner return unsuccessful the wiser may profit by it, but this is not the rule when adventure has once possessed us. We still crave new excitements, repel slow acquisitions, dislike quiet unobtrusive ways, covet that lawless independence which ends in the worst subserviency, and, lastly, the unsuccessful has lost time and opportunities that may never return.

The farmer who sees the processes of vegetation, if he is an enlightened man, has unalloyed delight, and his prospects under this development have nothing in them to shock his moral perceptions. The blacksmith if he chooses to give rein to his thoughts, may consider the coal and iron that he uses and works upon as something more than the representative of value. He may even compare Pennsylvania and California as States, and find one wanting in the elements of a permanent prosperity—the other overflowing with them. But in justice to the latter, we might observe that its mining, as now chiefly conducted, by companies and organized bodies, leaves the agricultural and other interests of the State unaffected to their own development.

It may be said that the miners for gold in the United States, show a better record than those of England, who work in coal, iron, tin, and copper, but the difference between their respective conditions in the social scale, is as wide as the poles. Until we can place English lower society in the same base as our own, which theoretically acknowledges no lower, is practically energetic and ambitious, and intellectually better informed, we may be prepared to admit that our reasoning is inconclusive. The worst feature of American society is its instability. We are not satisfied to leave places where the institutions, labor, and soil operate against us, and so far so good; but we never stop. We satisfy the mind in its adventurous cravings, but we satisfy nothing else. No sooner is

the farm fenced in, the soil broken, the trees planted, than we volunteer for the Mexican war, start off for Texas or Iowa, perhaps turn filibuster, or the flaming vision of gold haunts us and we go to California, leaving the farm to waste, the association of neighbors, society, kindred, friends, nature's landmarks, to wither in their freshness, with little prospect of their being revived again in all their fair proportions during life!

Such is too much the career of our countrymen. The continent gets peopled the earlier, but not the better. The material ends of existence are elevated into undue importance, civilization is weakened into a nomadic system, into a rough, border, perhaps Mormon life, that in its coarctions involves the old States in turmoil, confusion, and expense, towers the general intelligence, legislation, and virtue of the nation. These are the fruits of adventure and they are inseparable from it.

Another feature worth consideration is the accessibility of these gold fields to the populous districts, enabling our Western States to send their tens of thousands, and other places in proportion, to swell the competition, the leveling process. From all we can learn gold has to be dug with as much toil as potatoes, and is often full as prosy, and if we compare it with the higher departments of husbandry and industry we shall find it sink out of sight in all valuable estimation. Provisions too will be very high, are transported from great distances, and one may possibly starve clinging to their gold bags. We say then to every one disposed to go to Pike's Peak or the Gila, "let well alone," and if not in this comfortable position, the chances to acquire it are about equal in employments at home, in which he may be assisted by the aid of friends and associates. If, nevertheless, some will go, let them not lose their common sense, or suppose that life is not still a struggle, in which skill, consummate prudence in its earlier stages, far greater reserve are even more necessary to them than ever. B.

The Cane Staple.

MR. EDITOR: I think that there can be no longer any question about the successful cultivation of the Chinese Sugar Cane here; that it will grow to perfection; that it will yield large crops; that its juice can be made into excellent syrup, and this profitably to the grower—with some further conditions.

And the conditions are these: the man who expects to raise cane and work it up at a profit, should select high and dry ground, plant the seed early, so as to have much of his crop matured by the 1st of September. When he has planted his seed, he should go about getting his apparatus to work up his cane. He should have this all ready by the first of August. Better be a month too

early than one day too late. This having to get a mill and boilers after the cane is ready for working, is the rock on which many sugar cane growers have wrecked their expectations.

When the cane is ripe, it should be worked rapidly. The mill should be in order—the boiling apparatus in order—the fine dry wood in order—barrels for receiving the syrup and the offal for vinegar should be in order; and there should be sufficient sheds to do your work under cover and to put the cane under cover, if there should be rain.—You can't boil well, with rotten or green wood; you want such wood as will make quick and hot fires.

I have examined numerous accounts of the making of syrup and in which different modes have been treated of. After all the best syrup has been made in a very simple manner. The syrup for which the first premium of the State Agricultural Society was given, was a most beautiful article; about the consistency and color of honey. I have been permitted to copy the manner of making it.

"The process of manufacturing the syrup as per sample sent by me, is to 30 gallons of juice strained in the boiler, add one tea cup full of slaked lime, by thinning with water to the thickness of cream, and then boil as soon as possible and commence skimming on the first appearance of boiling, or the syrup will not be so clear. The boiling was continued *as fast as possible*, with frequent skimming until the thermometer rose to 224 degrees. The fire was then withdrawn and the syrup taken up in stone jars to cool.—The cane was well ripened." The best syrup will be made of perfectly ripe cane, and if several of the upper joints of the cane are removed, the better. I have urged the farmer who designs to make syrup to be prepared for his work in time. If heavy frosts come, his cane had better be under cover. Cane will make good syrup after it has been frozen, but not so much as before, and the syrup is more likely to be acid.

There is now no mystery in making good syrup from cane, if you have good cane, proper apparatus, good wood, and will listen to the experience of others.

PROGRESS.

Hungarian Grass.

JACKSONVILLE, Jan. 12, 1859.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

I have been waiting patiently all winter, and examining the papers closely for the purpose of hearing the experience of some of my brother farmers in regard to their *Hungarian grass* the past season. Having failed to find anything in reference to it, I will give you my experience and notion about it.

I could hardly get hold of a paper, last spring, that did not contain some glowing account of the tremendous yield, per acre, that some farmer, (always a great way off,) had realized from the growth of this said *Hungarian grass*. And thinking it was a humbug, got up by those that had anything but the good of our glorious State at heart, I determined to give it a fair trial in order to satisfy myself; and not wishing to be hurt very badly with it, I only bought one

half bushel of seed. This I got of a gentleman that bought it of the producer; he assuring me that it was pure, and there could not possibly be any seed of noxious weeds in it. Also that it would do well to be sown at any time from the first of May to the middle of June, preferring to be too early than too late. I prepared my ground, and sowed the seed the second Monday in May. I first, with a pair of strong heavy farm horses, attached to a steel clipper plow, plowed the ground close to the depth of nine inches, then harrowed with a heavy two horse harrow; immediately put on the seed, sowing them broadcast; then harrowed twice, in order to put the seed in as I thought it should be done.

I sowed the half bushel of seed on one acre and six rods of land. I selected for my experiment a piece of rich black soil, clear of noxious weeds of all kinds, lying fair to the sun, having a sufficient southern slope to lead off the water, and I think the wet season did not injure it. I was now very anxious about my Hungarian, and watched the ground very closely for its appearance. The first thing I discovered peeping through the ground was wild or black mustard, and next what I call narrow leaved or sour docks and then came the Hungarian. It appeared to me as though it was not out of its proper climate, as it was very weak, and had a decidedly beautiful rich yellow color, and grew very slowly at first, for which I give it credit, thereby giving me a chance to pull the most of the mustard and dock, but when it took another start to grow, it came on very rapidly, and appeared like it might perhaps come up to the statements I had heard of it. But instead of producing five, six, or seven tons to the acre, I got from my ground only about three and a half tons, which was but little better than my timothy and clover meadows; these making from two and a half to three tons per acre, the past season.

If it is much harder to cut with either machine, or scythe, than timothy and clover; about double the labor to handle in curing, and taking care of; is so coarse, hard and dry, that it is hardly possible to get a sensible horse or cow to eat it, and when they do eat it, I think they would be better off if they had eaten as much white oak splinters or hazel brush, not saying they are more nutritious; but in my opinion it is very heating to horses, and did disease the urinary organs of every horse I fed it too, and came very near killing a valuable Stallion at my stable.

I think it would not do to feed it to milch cows, and that it would kill calves if fed upon it. No horse likes it, and it will injure more or less every horse that eats it. I paid \$2,50 for my seed, \$2,00 for putting in, \$1,25 for cutting, about \$4,00 for curing and hauling to barn; the land would have rented at \$4,00. I used about half of it for feed, which cost me in expense charged to medicine account \$12,25, and the labor for one month of an experienced horse doctor, who says that no pecuniary interest can compensate him,—making in actual cost besides labor of attending to sick horses, \$26,00.

The balance of the straw I used for bedding my horses, not having time to haul it far enough from the barn to burn it in safe-

ty. It is little better than Indian corn stalks for bedding, and not half so good as wheat or oat straw.

If by the publication of this the life of one horse is saved, I shall be well satisfied. I would be glad to learn the experience of some other farmers on this subject.

WM. W. MORTON.

APPEAL

Of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, to the people of Illinois.

The Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, ask for their object the attention of the generous and patriotic citizens of Illinois.

Their persuasive appeal, seconded by the gifted powers of genius and eloquence, has gone forth through all the country, and nearly every State of the Union has already sent back a cordial response.

Nor is the American heart alone interested in this noble enterprise. Many a visitor from distant lands, who has made a pilgrimage to the venerated shrine of the world's greatest hero, sends across the ocean sympathetic greetings, and asks the honor of contributing to the rescue of that spot from the sad neglect to which it has been so long exposed.

No one can fail to see the propriety and fitness, under its severest conditions, of making the home and tomb of the great Father of our Country, the legitimate possession of his only children—the people of America.

For nearly sixty years has it been passing from hand to hand in various ownership; decay and ruin gradually creeping over it, until the child's light footsteps is no longer safe beneath its crumbling walls; while each year adds rapidly to its desolation.

It is to purchase, restore and beautify these sacred grounds, where the charms of nature and the graces of art shall combine to make them the pride of America, the admiration of the world, and a monument worthy of WASHINGTON, and thus, as well redeem the nation's honor, as satisfy the natural, but tardy promptings of grateful hearts, and to consecrate one great NATIONAL SHRINE, where the whole American brotherhood may meet, and laying aside all petty animosities of political, sectional and sectal prejudices take each other by the hand, mingle their tears, their prayers and their hopes; rivet more closely the bonds (which God grant may never, never be sundered) that unite them as a happy, prosperous and loving people, and at the grave of their common Father, feel but one warlike heart-throb. It is to accomplish this, that the Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association has been formed.

The officers of this association consist of a Regent and Vice Regents for the several States, who compose the Grand Council, and retain their offices for life, and a Secretary and Treasurer.

The Vice Regent of each State is authorized by the Regent, for the purposes of collection, to appoint Standing Committees of ladies and gentlemen, county managers and other officers as may be required, whose duty it is to advise with the Vice-Regent, and collect and receive contributions in aid of the object, and who will hold their offices during the exigencies of collection.

The capital stock of the Association is limited by charter to five hundred thousand dollars, two-fifths of which is required for the purchase of the estate, comprehending two hundred acres of land, including the mansion and tomb, with the garden, grounds, and landing place upon the Potomac. Of this, nearly one-half has already been paid, and great efforts are being made to complete the amount due on the contract, at the earliest possible time, to relieve the payment of interest.

The undersigned, having received official

appointment from the Regent, Miss Ann Pamela Cunningham, of the Vice Regency for Illinois, proposes to commence at once a comprehensive organization, in the confident assurance of a hearty co-operation, in a State, which, if it can boast no illustrious Revolutionary antecedents, no Bunker Hill, Saratoga or Yorktown, can claim for its citizens a share in the common glory as descendants of those who followed the Great Leader to victory, and freely shed their blood by his side; and can demand for them the privilege and the right, as common recipients of the blessings of that freedom which Washington bequeathed to all, to unite with those who would thus enshrine his memory, and those lofty sentiments of patriotism of which he was the noblest embodiment.

The movement of this Association extends to every State of the Union; and it is intended that all persons, every man, woman and child, shall have the privilege of contributing their dollar or their dime, and thus obtain a personal interest and ownership in this one great rallying home of the nation's affection.

The name, sum and residence of every subscriber will be recorded by the Vice-Regent, and a duplicate forwarded to the Regent, "which will hereafter be transferred to books that are to be bound and placed at Mt Vernon and in the archives of each State, that it may be known forever who purchased and consecrated the Home and Grave of Washington."

Any citizen who contributes one dollar, becomes a member of the Association, and by paying the same sum any subsequent year, will be entitled to a vote at the annual meeting of that year. The names of such donors will be published.

Lists of contributors and of sums given by individuals, associations, &c., legibly written, should be sent to Mrs. William Barry, Richmond House, Chicago; and all contributions, with a duplicate list of the names of subscribers to Luther Haven, Esq., No. 42 Lake street, Chicago. ELIZABETH WILLARD BARRY,

Vice Regent for Illinois.

Chicago, January, 1859.

The undersigned, approving the patriotic design of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, cordially unite with Mrs. Barry in her appeal to the people of Illinois in behalf of its objects, and will take pleasure in assisting her efforts to secure their entire success.

WILLIAM H. BINSELL,
JOEL A. MATTESON,
JOHN WOOD,
WILLIAM B. OGDEN,
MARK SKINNER.

Wants a Farm.

Mr. Editor:

I have always been a subscriber to your paper. Some years ago I came into Sangamon county, and pitched my tent fifteen miles away from Springfield on a good tract of land. It was then near one of the great thoroughfares of travel. Since the era of railroads has come and I found myself off the road. This did not suit me; but a forehanded farmer came along, who it did suit, and I sold him my farm; and now I want another; and I will just tell you what kind of a farm I want. One hundred and sixty acres of land will be enough, and twenty of that should be timber. I would be glad to have it somewhat improved. The lay of the farm must be rolling—rolling enough to carry off the water. The soil I would like to be rather light—I mean in distinction from heavy black prairie soil. I would like the soil to contain more sand and less clay than the heavy black soil. I want living stock water on the farm; and I want it with-

in one or two miles of a railroad and within ten miles of Springfield. If I can get such a piece of land, with the means I have, and with my disposition to improve, I will make it a model farm, and if there is as much as you say in thorough cultivation, I will make crops all the time.

Though I am now "foot loose," I have no disposition to go to Pike's Peak or anywhere out of the world to get a large plat of land and slave myself and family all the balance of my days for the benefit of others. I want to make a home. I had a pretty good one, but it didn't suit me. I believe I can suit myself better. Now, if you can hear of a place for sale that answers my description, with a price to meet the times, I want to purchase and to take possession next October, when I shall want from you fruit trees and vines and shrubbery and ornamental trees, to start with. E. D. Es—ll.

Our friend E. is probably hard to suit. Scarcely any place can be found with all the advantages he asks for. We will only say that he is in earnest in the desire to purchase a farm.

Small Farms for Rent.

Editor Farmer:

Among many farmers, there is a strong conviction that large farms, mainly devoted to the raising of wheat, are, and must be, unprofitable. Besides being unprofitable, they are difficult to manage, requiring much hired help, and merely furnish the means to pay this help. I have heard, lately, that there were many "Renters" in the country who desire to rent farms, and that no small farm, which has on it buildings at all comfortable will fail of being taken at a fair cash rent.

All these facts, taken together, have led me to the conviction that persons who have large farms will find it for their benefit to divide their farms, put up small houses and other fixtures on the different divisions and rent the same. A man, who has a family, and is working for himself, as a general thing, will do better for himself than if working by the day or month for another. The owner of the land can have a general eye to their management, and if the renter does not please him he can make a change in a year. I believe that a farmer, who has a large farm, difficult to manage, will find many advantages in adopting the policy here preferred for making his lands profitable.

In getting up these "renter's houses and fixtures," a little care will make them comfortable and pleasant, and such will induce good renters to hold on for some time. Make your house for the renter comfortable. Select some spot for it where the ground is high, and if possible where there is some shade; have the well convenient; have the house large enough to admit of sleeping rooms, and good kitchen; a cellar, if possible; have a garden. These preparations, started right, will not cost much, and they attach a renter to his home. HE IS A MAN, and loves comforts, and HIS WIFE can appreciate them. I care not if the house is of logs, it can be made comfortable and have a certain air of taste and refinement. Many persons compelled to rent farms, have as fine a

sense of what should constitute a home, as other men.

I have been led to make these remarks, Mr. Editor, by the fact, that there are many large farms now, or have been in cultivation, and the owners do not know what is best to do with them, and by another fact, that there are many persons in the country who desire to rent small farms. I. S. C.

Potatoes.

Mr. Editor:

I do not fail in getting a crop of potatoes every year, and in some years they are better than in others,—but I always have enough for my own family use, at least. When I have more than I want for the family, I find them useful for stock.

My feeding ground is always dry. I select for this purpose rolling ground. This ground I reserve for my potatoes. At the usual time of planting I plow, and plant my potatoes in every third furrow, and cover them as I go along. The tramping of the ground in winter, and the manure left on it, seem to suit the crop; and when the crop needs plowing, I plow it, sometimes twice and give myself no further trouble about the crop until digging time. I then plow the potatoes up with a shovel plow, gather them, and put them into my cellar. This is the way I raise my potatoes, and, as a general thing, I am satisfied with my crops.

GRIFFITH.

What is to be Done?

Mr. Editor:

The season has now arrived, when we must adopt plans for the cultivation of our farms the present year. The two last years have been trying on farmers. Many of us have lost our crops, and we must now save our selves if we possibly can. What is to be done? We must so prepare our grounds, plant our seed and cultivate our crops, as to make crops despite of an adverse reason.—This is the true science of farming. And this to a great extent can be done; and that farmer who does not aim to raise crops in bad seasons, and accomplish his aim, will never be a successful farmer. That is a fact which will force itself on the minds of all who will give attention to the subject.

We have many farmers who have made money all the time through the late adverse seasons. They know that their flat grounds, unless so drained that the accumulation of waters of wet seasons will run off with fair to produce crops. They know that we have five bad spring seasons for getting in crops, where we have one good one; and like prudent men their work shows that their knowledge is worth something to them. There are flat farms within a mile or ten miles of your town that produced abundant crops the last season—wheat, corn, grasses, Hungarian millet, potatoes, and other things—not so much as they would have produced in a more favorable season, but good paying crops. These farmers pay their store bills promptly, and have money on hand. They don't run up bills and then have to be sued on them. They do not carry off goods because they can get them on credit—and then when the money is wanted from them, they go off and purchase at other stores,

making new bills on their new promises.

The time has come in Illinois when we must not depend on the "hit" of the season to make crops. We must thoroughly cultivate. If our land is wet, we must take means to carry off the water. We must plow well, and deep. We must keep down the weeds. We must put in our seed well—cultivate well—and when all this is done, we are all but certain of fair crops. England is a great agricultural country. There productions per acre are immense. Our system of cultivation there, would rarely return the seed sown. Our cultivation there would desolate the country. I repeat, that we must adopt the system of thorough cultivation, if we would secure good crops. We must not depend upon the seasons for crops. We must depend more upon ourselves, and God will help us.

Let our neglectful farmers think of these things—some do think of them, and adopt an improved system of farming, and their improved system pays well. The time was when a partial failure of a crop in Illinois, worked no great evil. It is not so now; our people are not content with the same mode of living that was in fashion here twenty years ago. A little hog and harmony, and the coarsest and cheapest clothing satisfied them. Now our farmers want all the comforts and luxuries which farmers enjoy elsewhere; and to have these requires constant vigilance in farming. This vigilance—this exercise of enlightened judgment. This use of "mind with muscle"—this habit of doing our part in the thorough cultivation of our land, will secure all the ends we may reasonably ask for.

"ONE WHO INTENDS TO PRACTICE
WHAT HE PREACHES."

The Sugar Question.

The importance of this subject, demands all the light that can be thrown upon it.—The following communication states some new facts which should be considered by cane growers. The offer of the writer to superintend a sugar establishment, we hope will meet the eye of some man who is disposed to engage in the business.

TUSCOLA, Coles Co., Ill., Jan. 15, 1859.

S. Francis, Esq.:

DEAR SIR: Yours, of Dec. 22d, was duly received. I have mostly forgotten the contents of my former letter, though I believe that I stated, that I intended planting some 30 acres of cane the ensuing season.

I am not a freeholder in this state. My profession is that of a practical engineer and millwright. I was some six years in Louisiana and Florida, erecting sugar mills, and taking off crops of sugar. The climate was so sickly that I was obliged to come north. While there I had the best of opportunities, posted myself up well, as I think, in all that pertains to the manufacture of raw sugar.

Since coming north, I have had two seasons experience (in a small way, and with miserable materials,) with the Chinese Cane, and know very well what can be made out of it, by correct management, and skillful plans from the start.

Though the Sorgho is a difficult juice to work—or difficult to one accustomed to the Southern cane juice; yet it is perfectly easy, when once the *kinks* are fairly understood; but I have no hesitation in saying, and time will prove me correct, there is less known at the north in regard to the cane culture, than there is in regard to working it up.

It was not owing to any skillful management, that some few succeeded the past season, in making sugar, or a fine article of syrup, as I have their published, or written statements, and some of them were as unskillful as possible, almost. It was owing to good juice. The cane was planted on dry or rolling sandy land, and it was attended to.

I came here the second week in November last, to take off a crop of cane, of 40 acres, and found the cane good for nothing; it having been planted the 10th of June. It looked so spindling, and feeble to Mr. R., he never having had any experience with cane, that he gave it up for a bad bargain. After harvest time, early in August, having lost nearly all his crops, he thought he would make some fodder out of it, any how. So he turned to and ploughed it once, and that was all the cultivation it ever got; but it started off at such a rate, and grew so rapidly, that late in the season, (too late,) he concluded to work it up into syrup. The leaves were all killed by the heavy frost of the 7th October, and it stood in the wet ground, till in November, in constant rain and water. The highest the juice stood was 5° or 5½°, and even that strength was made up of gum, and not sugar, and though we had miserable fixtures for the business, and nothing but constant rain, I made an article which, if not the best, sold quite readily, and we make a constant and free use of it at our table. But one gallon of juice at 10° is worth more than two gallons at 7°, or four gallons at 5°. When it is low, its juice is made up almost entirely of gum, and it takes so long to boil it down that what little sugar there is in it will undergo decomposition.

Propositions have been made to me by several in this neighborhood, to superintend cultivating and taking off a crop of cane, the ensuing season, on shares, and I had made up my mind to do so; but on more mature reflection, think I had better seek a more congenial soil, if not climate. The borders of the large river, and the southern part of the State, are the places for cane culture.—There will be no trouble at all in making good cane on the borders of the Illinois river, from Marshall county down, or on this side the Mississippi, all the way, or in the vicinity of the Wabash. But these low flat prairies have too tight and impervious a sub-soil for good juice.

Much better or handsomer sugar can be made in Florida than can be made in Louisiana, any way they can fix it. The last season I was with Mr. Yulee, (Hon. D. L. Yulee,) we made 143 hhds—pronounced the handsomest American sugar that ever came to New York market. It sold within ½ cent. per lb of what the very best Porto Rico did. And on all the plantations I was on at the South, I invariably found the best juice, and that the most easily worked, on a dry sandy soil.

I would like to meet with a party having

suitable land and some means, to superintend cultivating and taking off a crop of 30 or 40 acres. I am ready to guarantee, in writing, a net profit of \$100 per acre, over and above the cost of cultivation, and taking off; but not including cost of machinery. This, for engine, mill, kettles, &c., would cost from 12 to 1400 dollars, half cash, balance in 6 months.

I had thought, that perhaps, among your numerous subscribers, or correspondents, some one might be in the vein for such an enterprise. As I said before, I know very well what can be made out of the Chinese or the African cane; and from the first I have said the latter was the best; and I will enter into written stipulations, either as to quality, or quantity, of the syrup I will produce.

Syrup that shall command, at the lowest figure 75 cents per gallon, can easily be made, and at a cost not to exceed 20 cents; and 300 gallons, or even 400 gallons can just as easily be made from an acre, provide you have the right land, and set out for it from the start.

Cane is cane, as much as cotton is cotton, or peaches are peaches. To be sure, the juices of the different varieties vary much; yet their cultivation requires the same soil and treatment.

I have never yet seen a set of kettles fit to make a fine article of syrup from either the Chinese or African cane. I shall get up a set next season that shall tell a different story, from any I have ever yet seen or heard of. Not a particle of iron shall there be about them.

Should any of your acquaintances be in a mood for the "sweet business," if you will inform them of my wishes, or intentions, I will reciprocate the favor to your satisfaction. Should no more advantageous propositions be made to me, than I have received here of course I shall remain.

Very truly yours, J. S. W. BADGER.

P. S. I notice that Mr. Griffith, of Sangamon county, offers to cultivate 200 acres of cane for \$9,00 per acre, provided he can find a responsible party to take it off.

Is he aware that a suitable establishment for such a job could not be erected for less than from six to eight thousand dollars. It would take a 40 horse engine, mill and kettles to match, unless it was calculated to be six months about it. I could not cultivate cane, and cultivate it as it should be, to have good juice, short of 12 or 15 dollars per acre.

If he could come down to thirty or forty acres, to cultivate and take off, I can give him a chance to make something, but no one who knows any thing about cane culture, will undertake to work up a field of slip slop—cultivated cane.

It is not the seed we are after, it is the juice: farmers do not seem to comprehend the difference.

I was up in Wisconsin in the early part of the season—every body had a half acre or so, but they were all going in next year for 50 or 100 acres, and the majority could not raise \$500 to save their lives. At the South they always allow from 75 to 100 dollars, for their sugar works, for every acre they intend to cultivate.

Statistics of the State Prison.

We have already given our readers a general synopsis of the report of the Warden of the Illinois Penitentiary. Accompanying the report, however, we find a number of tables, giving interesting statistics in reference to the convicts, which are worth noticing as showing by whom and from what places our prison is filled.

The following is a statement giving the nativity of the convicts in the Penitentiary, Jan. 1st, 1849:

Ireland.....138	Maryland.....4
New York.....129	North Carolina.....1
Germany.....60	Prussia.....3
England.....34	Hanover.....1
Pennsylvania.....38	Holland.....2
Ohio.....36	Hungary.....9
Kentucky.....19	France.....3
Virginia.....16	Isle of Man.....1
Illinois.....22	Newfoundland.....1
Scotland.....16	Nova Scotia.....2
Connecticut.....8	British Possessions.....1
Vermont.....7	Rhode Island.....1
Canada.....23	Iowa.....1
Tennessee.....9	Arkansas.....1
Indiana.....10	Wal.....2
Maine.....5	Belgium.....1
Massachusetts.....11	Denmark.....1
Missouri.....5	Norway.....4
New Hampshire.....3	Austria.....2
Wisconsin.....3	New Jersey.....10
Michigan.....8	Mississippi.....2
Alabama.....6	
Louisiana.....2	Total.....661

The following is a statement exhibiting the crimes for which the convicts were committed to the Illinois State Penitentiary:

Robbery.....30	Crime against nature.....1
Larceny.....378	Arson.....9
Murder.....38	Attempting to pass counterfeit money.....3
Incest.....2	Robbing post office.....1
Assault to rape.....6	Passing counterfeit money.....12
to kill.....16	Assault to rob.....3
Perjury.....2	Kidnapping.....3
Forgery.....28	Embezzling letters.....3
Burglary.....69	Bigamy.....2
Manslaughter.....7	Vagrancy.....3
Counterfeiting.....7	Receiving stolen goods.....2
Rape.....10	Obstructing railroad track.....2
Violating mail.....2	
Assault to murder.....17	Total.....661
Stealing mail.....4	
Posting fictitious bills.....1	

The following statement shows the occupation of the convicts in the prison on the 1st of January:

Tailor.....20	Wagon-maker.....2
Saddler.....37	Baker.....5
Farmer.....138	Cooper.....6
School teacher.....3	Porter.....2
Blacksmith.....20	Engraver.....1
Miner.....4	Broom-maker.....1
Teamster.....22	Editor.....1
Clerk.....19	Wood-chopper.....1
Painter.....12	Thief.....2
Tanner.....2	Tinsmith.....3
Cook.....14	Weaver.....3
Harness-maker.....5	Glass-blower.....1
Grocer.....6	Housekeeper.....5
Laborer.....125	Brewer.....1
Rope maker.....1	Gilder.....1
Shoe maker.....10	Lather.....1
Printer.....11	Fireman.....3
Upholsterer.....7	Sailmaker.....1
Merchant.....3	Turner.....2
Barber.....9	Gardener.....1
Physician.....6	Door-keeper.....1
Boatman.....25	Caulker.....1
Trader.....1	Jeweler.....2
Stone-cutter.....4	Fancy woman.....1
Steward.....2	Sawyer.....5
Waiter.....16	Anchor-maker.....1
Carpenter.....22	Confectioner.....1
Blason.....11	Gas fitter.....1
Machinist.....15	Segar-maker.....1
Butcher.....11	Lawyer.....1
Peddlar.....4	Newsboy.....2
Gambler.....1	Tumbler.....1
Pilot.....3	Seamstress.....1
Miller.....1	Reporter.....1
Joiner.....2	Paper-maker.....1
Polisher.....1	
Hatter.....3	Total.....661
Druggist.....1	

The following is a statement, designating the countries from which the convicts were committed to the prison:

Peoria.....21	Montrie.....2
La Salle.....12	Union.....3
St. Clair.....27	Alexander.....4
Clay.....1	Bond.....1
Jo. Davies.....29	Coles.....1
Monroe.....1	Merritt.....2
Tazewell.....7	Warren.....1
Cook.....236	Woodford.....1
Montgomery.....1	Hardin.....1
Scott.....1	Henry.....5
Edgar.....4	Knox.....8
Putnam.....4	Sangamon.....8
Macoupin.....2	Menard.....2
Hancock.....9	Henderson.....2
Gallatin.....4	McLean.....2

Wabash.....2	Kankakee.....2
Ogle.....2	Crawford.....2
Boone.....10	De Witt.....2
Adams.....11	Whiteside.....5
Madison.....31	McDonough.....4
Lake.....5	Macoupin.....2
Logan.....3	Jackson.....2
Marshall.....3	Bureau.....5
Randolph.....4	Vermilion.....3
Jersey.....3	Clinton.....1
Massac.....3	Lee.....6
Will.....15	Johnson.....1
Rock Island.....17	Williamson.....1
Mellerry.....5	Perry.....1
White.....1	Effingham.....2
Marion.....6	Cumberland.....1
Greene.....4	Christian.....1
Pulaski.....3	Richland.....1
Lawrence.....3	Washington.....1
Jefferson.....1	De Kalb.....5
Shelby.....1	Morgan.....1
Du Page.....3	Chrysler.....1
Champaign.....3	Stark.....1
Mason.....6	Hamilton.....3
Stephenson.....9	Elton.....2
Winnebago.....11	Calhoun.....4
Kane.....14	U. S. Court, North Dist.....7
Clark.....1	U. S. Court, South Dist.....1
Jasper.....2	
Cass.....4	Total.....661

Of the 661 convicts in the prison, 406 can read and write; 154 can read and 101 can neither read or write. Five are sentenced for life; one is sentenced for 25 years; one for 20 years; two for 18 years; two for 17 years; four for 14 years; two for 12 years; twenty three for 10 years; all the others are for a less term.

Sugar Trade of the United States in 1858.

The editors of the *New York Shipping and Commercial List* have published their annual statement of the Sugar Trade of the United States, (exclusively of California and Oregon,) for 1858: "The total receipts of Foreign Unrefined Sugar into the United States for the year ending Dec 31, 1858, were 255,100 tons, against receipts in 1857 of 269,180 tons; and in 1856, 215,662 tons; and in 1855, 205,064 tons; and the quantity of this description which passed into consumption in 1858, was 244,758 tons, against a consumption in 1857 of 251,765 tons; in 1856, 255,292 tons; and in 1855, 192,607 tons, being an increase in the consumption of Foreign in 1858, over 1857, of 903 tons, or 1 1/2 per cent., while the total consumption of Foreign and Domestic Cane Sugar in 1858, was 388,482 tons, against a total consumption in 1857 of 280,735 tons; in 1856, 378,160 tons; in 1855, 377,752 tons; in 1854, 385,298 tons; in 1853, 372,989 tons; in 1852 315,217 tons; and in 1851, 288,485 tons, making an increase in the total consumption of foreign and domestic in 1858 as compared with 1857, of 107,727 tons, or over 38 per cent., being the largest quantity ever taken for consumption in the history of the country. We slightly increase our estimate of the quantity of sugar made from molasses during the past year; the trade having been generally more prosperous, the business has been on a somewhat larger scale, though in this connection we would remark that, notwithstanding the quantity of molasses consumed for this purpose exceeds that taken last year, and is nearly equal to that manufactured in 1856, and about the same as that boiled in 1855, yet the quantity of sugar obtained falls considerably below that yielded in the two latter years, owing to the introduction into Cuba within that period of centrifugal machinery, extracting more closely the saccharine matter contained in the molasses, and consequently rendering it less productive and not so desirable for refining purposes. We are informed that the quantity of sugar made from molasses in the country in 1858 may be placed at 25,000,000 lbs, or say 11,160 tons, obtained from 50,000 hogsheads of molasses, against 10,300 tons yielded from 46,000 hhd's, in 1857 11,875 tons from 53,000 hhd's in 1856 12,187 tons from 50,000 hhd's in 1855, and 14,923 tons from 66,500 hhd's in 1854; add to this the product of the maple tree the past year, say 24,000 tons, and the estimated consumption of California and Oregon 7500 tons, (the refineries recently established in San Francisco having somewhat

increased the previous consumption) would make the total consumption of raw sugar in the United States in 1858 431,152 tons, against a total consumption in 1857 of 332,065 tons, showing the increase in the consumption of all kinds in 1858 of 99,087 tons, or nearly 30 per cent. We may add here that this increased would have been doubtless still further enlarged but for the partial failure of the fruit crops in most of the Northern and Western States the past season, curtailing the amount, that it is reasonable to suppose would have been otherwise consumed in the domestic manufacture of preserves, jellies, &c. The consumption of 1857, however, was greatly lessened by causes still fresh in the memory of all engaged in the trade. The high and extravagant rates which the article commanded in the markets both of the Old and New World brought with them its inevitable consequences—an astonishingly diminished consumption—a severe revulsion, followed by, to many, a heavy disaster. The average price during the past year having been reduced equal to about 25 per cent, as compared with those ruling in 1857, has again given an impetus and vigor to the trade which will doubtless be continued while it retains its present healthful position.

Hungarian Grass.

Editor of the Illinois Farmer:—In the November number of the *Farmers* your correspondent "Enquirer" asks for the practical experience of those who have grown the Hungarian Grass the past season. Being one of those who received a small package of this seed in its first distribution by the patent office in 1854, from your hands and having grown it more or less for the last four years I think I can speak experimentally upon its merits.

It has its advantages and objections in common with other farm crops. Our crop the past season was very satisfactory. Parts of it grew on land that has been in cultivation twenty-two years and was considered the thinnest soil on our farm. It grew rapidly attaining three feet in height and as thick as it could stand—was entirely exempt from rust or blight of all kinds (something uncommon for the season) stood up straight and nice was free from weeds and when harvested left the ground in the very best of order there being no after matter of weeds or worthless grass as in wheat or oats. We cradled 1 1/2 acres of it and cured and bound up just as we would Oats. Off of this we had one hundred and fifty dozen of superior hay, and fifty bushels of seed. The remainder we mowed and cured as we would Timothy. From four years experience I think with ordinary cultivation it will yield thirty bushels of seed and three tons of cured hay to the acre. On very wet or muddy land with slovenly farming it may not do so well. The seed is rich and oily—the stalk sweet and nutritious and stock of all kinds are very fond of it, in fact preferring it to Timothy or Clover either green or cured. My principal objection to it is the difficulty of curing and handling if cut with a scythe, it should be turned before raking up, otherwise the bottoms of the swaths will be too green to house. If reaped or cradled it requires about the same management as oats. Some asserts that it will be an exhausting crop on the soil, but my experience does not warrant, that conclusion I think that Oats are equally objectionable on that score.

J. E. YOUNG.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, FEBRUARY 1, 1859.

Hungarian Grass, or German Millet.

Last season a large amount of the seed of this forage plant was sowed in this section of Illinois. In Iowa, where it had been previously cultivated to a considerable extent, it had a great popularity. No language seemed to be too strong to express its value. The seed could be sowed early in June; dry weather did not effect the growth of the plant; it yielded sometimes six tons of forage and thirty bushels of seed to the acre; was preferred by horses and cattle to timothy—and with this plant farmers were independent of the seasons. Well, as we have said, many farms in this section of the State, last Spring, sowed Hungarian grass seed. It was a bad season—rain from May first nearly to July, copious and continuous—some good crops were made; so much we learn, and that is all. Whether as a general thing our farmers are satisfied with this forage plant, or not, they do not inform us. Judging from the demand for seed for sowing in the coming spring, we think that some farmers, who did not make trial of the plant last spring, are impressed with a belief of its value.

We have a communication in this paper on the subject of the Hungarian Grass, from Mr. W. M. Morton, of Morgan county. His experience is decidedly against it, and if he had the true German Millet, we do not marvel that he condemns it. We should not be surprised to learn, that the great demand for the seed last year, induced unprincipled men to throw into market the common millet seed for the German millet. The common millet is a much larger growing and coarser plant.

We observe in some of the newspapers the advertisement of some seed speculator, in which he says he has sent to Europe for the pure seed of the Hungarian Grass, and that he has a small quantity for sale at \$3 for 16 pounds. Of course we believe about as much of this story as we choose. There is enough seed of the Hungarian Grass in Iowa and Illinois to supply all the demands for it the present year, and at reasonable prices. So soon as the roads are in a condition for produce to be moved, the supply will be all that is desired.

Shrubby.

In every part of the country improvements are being made—new houses are being erected, and farmers are ornamenting their yards about their dwellings. Many persons who are anxious to get a few articles of shrubbery from the nurseries for ornamenting their grounds, scarcely know what they want, and they are very apt to take advice which proves to be of no value to them. We present a short list of cheap and common articles, but yet of decided beauty:

Two Balsam Fir, Norway Spruce or Black Spruce trees—say 50 cents each.....	\$1.00
Two Persian Lilacs, white and purple, at 20.....	40
One snowball, at 25c.....	25
One tamarix, at 25c.....	25
One sweet scented seringa, 25c.....	25
Three Spiraea, Prunifolia, Douglassi and sorbifolia, at 20c.....	60
Wegelia Rosea, at 25c.....	25
One Japan Quince, 30c.....	30
One Belgian Honey-suckle at 25c—running.....	25
One Chinese " " 25c—running.....	25
Two hardy perpetual roses, Dutchess of Southland and Madam Laffay, 50c each.....	1 00
	\$5.00

Now here is a pretty stock, costing only five dollars. This stock could be largely increased, but it is sufficient for a small garden. Send to any nurseryman an order with the money, and you will be sure to have it filled, and the shrubs sent to you in a few days, if the season permits. When you get your plants put them out, some distance apart, planting them well in good soil, and they will all be likely to do well.—The evergreens need careful planting, where they will have room to spread their limbs, and by no means trim them. The more foliage you can have on an evergreen, the better.

The Honey-Blade Grass.

This is a new name given for the small Millet, known as the "Hungarian Grass." Mr. Felix B. Benton, of Missouri, has been at the trouble to send to Europe to obtain the seed—"pure." He says it is the same that a poor Hungarian exile brought from Hungary to Illinois, and having delivered it there to Mr. Gleason, was never afterwards heard of! Wonderful, indeed. And Mr. Gleason sowed the seed and raised the millet, and the next year carried his seed to Iowa, and there sowed it, and the crop finally became so popular that the farmers there gladly gave fifteen dollars a bushel for the seed, until the cultivation reduced the price to fifty cents per bushel. Now the growth of the millet in question is perfectly dis-

tinct from that of the common millet—so much so that no man with half an eye can be mistaken in regard to it; and we consider the idea of sending to Europe, perhaps to Hungary, to obtain seed, unnecessary, if not ridiculous—quite as much so as the story of the seed being brought to this country by a Hungarian exile, and that having delivered it to Mr. Gleason, he was immediately translated! The seed of the Hungarian Grass (*Moha de Hongrie*) was distributed from the Patent Office in this state, to our certain knowledge, five or six years ago, and we know one farmer who raised a crop of it.

Grapes.

Every farmer should have grape vines. Get them once started and they will grow off without much care. They need only to be trimmed of their superfluous wood, and turned upon some sort of a trellis, (they will run and do tolerably well on a tree) and you can usually have a good quantity of the most pleasant and healthful fruit. The Nurserymen will furnish vines one year and two years old at 25 and 37 cents, and a half dozen will be all you want. The Isabella and Catawba do well in this region, and most parts of Illinois.—Many persons succeed in raising plants from cuttings, and there will be plenty the present month—as the old vines must now be trimmed.

Evergreen Protection.

Probably the Norway spruce is the best; though there are other evergreens of nearly equal value. It grows fast, its limbs come down to the ground, its foliage is thick, and the tree beautiful. The Black spruce has a more stiff habit, grows thick, foliage dark, and is of slower growth.

In quantities, two feet trees of the hardy varieties of evergreens, twice transplanted in the nursery, can be furnished in this State at from \$15 to \$25 per 100, according to variety; six to ten inch, transplanted, \$5 to \$10 per 100; and native varieties \$30 to \$50 per 1000.

A farmer in Vanderburgh county Indiana, last fall took a silver pitcher as a premium for a large crop of corn. The award was made under oath for a crop on five acres, that averaged 171 bushels per acre.

Morrill's Land Bill.

This bill, which passed the lower house of Congress last month, and is now before the Senate, has received, on motion of Mr. Davis, of Stephenson, the unanimous approval of the House of Representatives of this State. The bill if it should pass Congress, and be approved by the President, will amply endow Agricultural Colleges in every State. We hear that the bill will not pass the Senate this Winter; and if it does, we have heard it intimated, that the President may veto it. We hope, however, for the best.

A Wrong Done.

A few days ago a bill was before Congress in relation to preemptions on public lands. An amendment was offered, providing that no public lands should be brought into market until ten years after the same should be surveyed. The object was to secure those who designed to make farms for themselves the benefit of selections of land for that time. The measure was defeated by a few votes. Capitalists and speculators desire that lands shall be offered for sale immediately after they are surveyed, so that they can select all that are choice and sell to poor settlers at ten times their cost.

Strawberries.

Farmers who have plenty of ground and do not cultivate a bed of strawberries, deprive themselves of a great luxury. They are as healthy as well as a delicious fruit.—Nor is it great labor to have them in abundance. The plants can be had at any of the nurseries and at very low rates. There ought to be twenty acres of strawberries in the market gardens near this city to supply our citizens with this fruit. Cincinnati gardeners make a good business of selling "fine, large, delicious strawberries" at 8 and 10 cents a quart, and at these prices the masses can afford to eat them.

Evergreens.

No man in Illinois has had more experience in the culture and management of Evergreens than Samuel Edwards, of Lamoile, Bureau county. He has cultivated all the staple and fancy varieties, and gives the following list of kinds suited to and hardy in this climate:

*White Pine	*Norway Spruce
*Austrian "	*Black "
*Cambric "	Red and white "
*Norway "	*Hemlock "
Grey "	Red Cedar "
*Scotch "	*Balsam Fir
American Arbor Vitae	Favin
*Libanian "	Trailing Hemlock
*Swedish Juniper	*Irish Juniper
	Trailing Juniper.

All these varieties succeed well, and are worthy a place in extensive grounds.

*Varieties thus marked are very ornamental.

PREMIUM CROPS.—The Connecticut State Agricultural Society awarded premiums on last year's crops 5th January. Corn, Dwight Hine, of Middlebury, eight rowed yellow corn, 118 bushels per acre; Wm. H. Putnam, Brooklyn, 110 bushels per acre. Winter Wheat, Street Williams, Willingford, 24 4-9 ts. bushels per acre. Rye, Edward Shepard, Portland, 51 bushels per acre white rye. Oats, Jabez P. Manning, 47 bushels per acre. These are good crops, especially the Corn and Rye, not often surpassed here.

At the late meeting of the State Horticultural Society at Bloomington, the catalogue of apples was read, and members were requested to object if they had objections to the fruit, as bad, unproductive, &c. The result was that not more than four varieties passed through this ordeal—showing conclusively that some varieties of apples were suited to particular localities, and would not answer for others. Benoni was one of the apples that passed successfully through this trial.

An old mountaineer says that in the valleys in the neighborhood of Pike's Peak, as well as in the country on the Cherry Creek, the winters are not colder than in St. Louis. Miners were working in their shirt sleeves on Cherry Creek on the 4th of November, though snow was four feet deep on the mountains within twenty-five miles of them.

THE CHICAGO, ALTON & ST. LOUIS RAILROAD.—The difficulties on this Rail Road have been settled. The committee on the part of the employees have declared themselves entirely satisfied with the management of the road by Gov. Matteson. The whole emeute, it seems, was got up by the agents of some of the bondholders, who were seeking their own advantage, and not that of the employees on the road.

Country homes are wanted for two hundred German, Irish, Swedish, African and American boys, from one to fifteen years of age. Persons who can do justice to such boys, in all respects, may address E. C. Newcomb, Chicago.

SALSIFY.—This plant is now excellent. They can be taken from the gardens while the frost is out of the ground, Cooked and dressed as asparagus, no vegetable is more delicate, and it is peculiarly desirable at this season of the year.

There is more inquiry for Osage Orange plants than we have ever known at this early season of the year. Those who have had no faith in the Osage Orange, are among those now most anxious to get plants. We suggest that on prairie farms, where it is desirable to break the force of winds, as well as to secure a good hedge, to put out the hedge in two rows, six inches apart, thus:

Cultivate your hedge and keep it clear of weeds. Let the plants grow two years, and in the spring of the third year cut them off close to the ground, and afterwards let them grow. They will make a tight fence and a protection from winds to some extent. If they should get too high and you wish to top them, do so

GOOD.—The Moultrie Express is collecting the statistics of the Chinese Sugar Cane culture in that county. Many farmers there have made their own syrup. Among them E. W. Brooks, 29 gallons; J. Ray, 10; Wm. Ray, 10; J. J. Dixon, 20; R. Randall, 10; F. Redman, 20; R. G. M. Henry, 63; J. Millyen, 84; R. Rutherford, 21; A. M. Pheeters, 80. Moultrie will make her own sweetening next year.

SHEEP.—E. B. Hopping, a few miles south of this city, who has the care of 5000 sheep, did not feed them until the month of January. This is decidedly fortunate, while corn is worth fifty cents per bushel. By-the-bye our wool growers have fine prospects as we notice that wool is quoted higher at this time than at any time for many years past.

UPRIGHT HONEYSUCKLES.—These make beautiful shrubs; grow some ten feet high, if they are in good soil, with a fair exposure. The varieties are three—having a general resemblance—bearing white, yellow and pink flowers, succeeded by small berries.—When large their flowers are numerous. A neat shrub, not gorgeous, but pleasing.

SYRUP IN WISCONSIN.—P. Allen writes us from Allen's Grove, Wisconsin, that he made 300 gallons of Chinese sugar cane syrup, the last season, some of which was very fine. The seed of the plant does not ripen there, however, and he will have to supply himself with seed from central Illinois.

We hope our farmers have supplied themselves with seed corn for Spring. A great crop of corn must be grown in central Illinois the present year, as we feel apprehensive that the wheat will be light.

Crops---A Movement in the Right Direction.

Several of the Legislatures of the North Western States have made provision for ascertaining the amounts of the staple crops of their respective States yearly. The object of which is to prevent speculation injurious either to the dealer or purchaser. At this time, if operators derive to make the impression general that crops are ample, they find no difficulty and in purchasing low. After being able to control the market, and they choose to find that crops are small they can sell at high prices.—What is wanted is, that there should be some reliable authority in regard to the amount of crops, embracing the cereals, hogs and cattle. These statistics can be obtained every spring by assessors. They can learn the amount of crops of the previous year, of hogs, slaughtered, &c. and they can also learn the amount of land sown with wheat the previous fall and of corn in the spring, oats, &c. We do not suppose that an accurate account can be obtained, but we do believe that sufficient information could be had to be of vast service to the interest of Agriculture. We believe Ohio, Wisconsin and Michigan have made a movement in this direction, which should be followed by Illinois and Indiana. Farmers pay most of the taxes, and to ask a little expenditure in increasing the duties of assessors for their benefit—(and which would be of great general benefit) would not be unreasonable.

THE WHEAT CROP.—We have taken some pains to learn the present state of the crops in the ground. That which is on high rolling ground, or ground which is drained well, looks very fair; but wheat on flat ground, undrained, and which has been saturated with water, thawing and freezing all winter, is in a bad state. The wheat in many such fields which have been examined, is thrown out of the ground by the action of the frost, and there is no possibility of a crop on grounds where the wheat is thus thrown out. Our opinion is, that less than usual extent of ground was put in wheat last fall, and much of the crop is already lost.—Our farmers can never be certain of raising good wheat until their grounds are thoroughly drained, and the seed put in in the best manner.

Last fall the ground before plowing was generally covered with high weeds, and these weeds were plowed in, the soil thus left light, and porous, the seed sown broadcast; every circumstance attending the putting in of the crops was calculated to kill it out by, just such a winter as we are now having.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.—A communication from Mr. J. K. Young, of Menard county, who received from the editor of this paper five years ago, a paper of Hungarian Grass Seed, which came from the Patent Office—puts a damper on that humbugging story that a handful of the seed was brought to this country by a poor Hungarian exile, who after delivering it to an Iowa farmer was immediately missing, taken up by a whirlwind or something of that sort.—Mr. Young has now considerable seed, which he will bring to us to dispose of. We are apprehensive that the demand last year stimulated unprincipled men to sell Italian Millet Seed for the Hungarian Millet or Grass—which makes a much coarser and not by any means as good forage as the Hungarian.

MCCORMICK'S REAPER.—An effort is now being made at the Patent Office, to get an extension of the patent for McCormick's Reaper. If this succeeds, it will be most disastrous to the farmers and a large number of mechanics of Illinois,—for, it is understood, that M. McCormick claims improvements that have been for sometime used on all the other different reapers manufactured in the State.

MORGAN HORSES.—Seem to be coming quite popular in Kentucky. Mr. Elias Dorsey; is breeding this stock, and last year at St. Louis, Centralia and Louisville, and other fairs, received on his stock more than thirteen hundred dollars in premiums. This is simple evidence of the high character of his stock.

COUNTRY SCHOOL HOUSES.—James Johannot has got up a work, giving the elevations, plans and specifications for country school houses. We are told that is a most valuable work. If so, it is much needed in our State, while our people are building school houses, they may just as well build such as are convenient, and pleasant, as such unseemly structures as we sometimes see in the country.

From what we Receive our Revenue.

The Auditor's Report shows that when the last assessment was made, (1857) the number of horses in the State of Illinois was 467,531, and their assessed value \$25,434,171, or an average of \$54 40. In the same year the number of neat cattle was 1,351 209, and their value \$16,171,830, or 11 97 a head. The number of mules and asses was 28,882, and their value \$1 969,284, making \$68 18 the individual average. There were 760,602 sheep, including rams, valued at \$881 126, or \$ 16 a head. The hogs numbered 1,893,585, and were valued at \$4,032,588. There were 173,580 carriages and wagons, at \$5,806,415 or \$33 45 each. Clocks and watches to the number of 145,688, and of the value of \$881,000 were enumerated in that year—1857. Pianos to the number of 2,320 responded to ten times the number of fair flying fingers. "Goods and merchandise" were valued at \$14 173,205; "bankers' property" at \$3,729,940; "manufactured articles" at \$1,296,758; "money and credits" at \$19,183,421; "bonds, stocks" &c., at \$752,621; "unenumerated property" at \$15,327,503.

The foregoing does not include the counties of St. Clair and Moultrie, which are marked blank in the report

Sangamon county ranks next to Cook; (Chicago) and Peoria next. The total value of the real and personal property of Cook, is \$45,680,333.

The valuation of Sangamon is \$12,000,000; of Peoria \$9,867,000; of McLean \$9,211,000 and of Knox \$9,093,000. All the other counties range between one and eight millions.

Great Western Railroad Traffic.

We are indebted to the politeness of B. Stockwell, Jr., General Freight Agent of the above railway Company for the following statement of the traffic of the road for 1858. It shows a great increase of business on that popular road, and will be read with interest:

Statistics of Freight transported over the Great Western Railroad of Ills., for the Year 1858.

Assorted merch'dise lbs.....	33,521,252
Wheat, bush.....	233,420
Rye, ".....	2,276
Corn, ".....	169,334
Oats, ".....	17,133
Barley, ".....	8,518
Potatoes, ".....	5,626
Flour, lbs.....	16,742
Whiskey, bbl.....	2,668
Pork, ".....	6,711
Beef, ".....	40
Apples, ".....	1,173
Lime and Cement bbl.....	2,754
Lard, lbs.....	1,587
Lard, tins.....	1,819
Salt, bbls.....	9,514
S. lt. sacks.....	7,364
Iron, lbs.....	9,309,376
Coal, tons.....	18,278
Dress'd pork.....	1,583,228
Sand, Lime and Clay in bulk, tons.....	4,635
Wood, cords.....	1,068
Stone, tons.....	1,886
Mules and Hores, No.....	1,346
Sheep, No.....	8,917
Hogs (live) No.....	113,595
Cattle, No.....	50,991
Lumber, feet.....	12,825,501
Shingles and Laths M.....	7,521
Wood, lbs.....	299,113
Cotton bales 5,026; lbs.....	2,857,011
Engines and tenders.....	6
Cir us cars.....	29
Hay, bales.....	470
Bbls, Staves, car loads.....	166
Ice, &c.....	32

CAMELS.—The government have forty nine Camels near St. Antonio, Texas—ten of which are quite young.

The January No. of the Farmer.

The article on "novel reading," has good points. There are many valuable novels, the perusal of which will do good. The difficulty is in making proper selections. Walter Scotts, are among the best. It is questionable, however, if the perusal of more sterling works, history, geography, travel; *such works as enlightens us in the employments of our every day life*, would not prove more advantageous to us. I think they would.

We have a communication from Mr. R. Kimball, of Delavan, relative to his experiments with the African Sugar Cane. He has tried also the Chinese, and prefer the African. He finds no difficulty in making sugar of the juice of the African, from the fact, as he supposes, that it maintains less mucilage than the other. Accounts of all these, from every quarter, will enable our sugar growers to go to work another year with entire confidence in success.

Samuel State, of Medina county, Ohio, gives his experience in regard to cooking corn as food for stock. He grinds the cob with the corn, and boils the meal.—His experience proves that there is a great saving in this practice, that stock fattens handier, and that it keeps off all diseases.

"Sorgho as food for stock."—Wherever this has been tried, it has been successful. The seed is equal to corn for hogs. The stalks and leaves cut up in a cutting machine, will be eaten with avidity by cattle, horses and hogs. The sauharine in the stalk has very fattening qualities. The amount of the forage that can be raised on an acre of ground is surprising. I have seen it stated at 80,000 pounds.

"The Dairy" is a good article. We have every thing to make good butter, but qualified hands and conveniences in the shape of dairy houses. These will come in good time. We ought not to send for butter to New York, and Ohio.

"Wines."—If our friends want drinkable wines, they must make them. The wines usually bought, are made of every thing, except the juice of the grape. It is easy to raise grapes, and it is easy to make good wine from this juice, no more difficult than to make wine from currants.

"Hedging."—There is no use of decoying Hedges of the Osage Orange. Every man who planted their hedges four years ago, and has taken good care of them, has now good hedges, which will turn stock, and which he would not part with for money. The country shows signs that there will be an unusual call for Hedge Plants.

We have the experience of a farmer in growing wheat as a staple crop. He says that in the long run he has lost money by this crop; and now will try another staple "Hogs." He shows his good sense. Hogs have always paid. Prepare your clover pastures, plant early corn and late corn, and

get such hogs as you can bring to market at 11 months old, weighing 250 pounds.

"Debby's Husband," has heard from the country! "Experience" has explained to him some matters that may mend his manners, if this is not done, we advise him to go to the country and receive some tarter lessons.

Syrup of the Sargho has been made successfully in considerable quantities in Winnebago county. The proceedings of the Sugar Growers Convention there shows that the people are in earnest in making themselves independent of Southern Sugar planters, for sugar and molasses.

It is well that the question is now under discussion—"How shall we protect our farms and orchards in the prairies from the winds which sweep over them?" The answer of our Bloomington Convention is—protect by bolts of timber close timber.—Plant the seeds of our forest trees—set out cuttings of the cotton wood, the Silver Abele, and even of willows;—but best of all plants out, belts of Evergreens. They can be had at our nurseries in large quantities at low prices; and they will be lower when the demand largely increases.

The proceedings of the State Horticultural Society at Bloomington, show that there is vitality in that body. Within the past four years all the rules which seemed to govern in the cultivation of orchards, have been of no avail in saving trees or securing fruit. The best orchards have died away, and many young orchards promise no better. It is the mission of the State Horticultural to ascertain the causes of these evils, and to point out the remedy. The members are not unconscious of their duty. The practical remarks made in the discussion of this Society at Bloomington, will be of great service to our farmers. Its full report will be published in the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society.

Samuel Jacob Wallace believes that Steam power will be used advantageously, in draining our farms, and thus drained our farms will grow good and permanent orchards and that the same process will secure the best crops of the cereals and other staples.

Agricultural Lectures could be rendered of great service in the rural districts in the winter season. It would be something new and if the lectures were practical and come down to man's every-day business would be eminently useful.

Josiah Sawyer, of Tremont, made sugar from the Sargho. He says that there were fourteen or fifteen hundred wooden mills engaged in crushing out the juice of the cane in Tazewell county last fall, and that the quality of the syrup was much superior to that of the previous year. We have no doubt the crop will be quadrupled the present year.

"SMALL FARMS."—J. S. on Lick Creek wants to sell a portion of his farm of 400 acres, and put the avails on the balance, and make himself comfortable by improving a small farm. He shows his good judgment.

S. W. Arnold believes in fall plowing for spring wheat and oats. His experience is altogether in favor of this practice.

The list of premiums awarded at the

late meeting of the Executive Committee contains some premiums that gratify me much. Egypt has come in for several premiums I believe hereafter she will carry off most of the premiums for wheat and corn. One gold medal goes to Wayne county.—One Reaper to Randolph county. One drill to Randolph county. Two twenty-five dollar goblets to Randolph county. One ten dollar goblet to Randolph county. Well done, Randolph county. Nobly have you won these distinguished honors.

HOMO.

"Fruit Growers Society of Western New York—Annual Meeting."**CULTIVATION OF APPLES.**

"How many varieties should be embraced in an orchard of 1000 trees, to secure the largest profit of orcharding in Western New York? What are the most profitable varieties for an orchard of 1000 trees?"

The above is a caption to a long discussion in the Fruit Grower's Society of Western New York, which was reported for and published in the "Rural New Yorker," and republished in some of the papers of our State. The discussion is an interesting one, and of importance to the Fruit Growers of *Western New York*; but of little practical advantage to us in Illinois. Indeed, it is calculated to mislead our fruit growers; for with but one or two exceptions the list of apples highest commended, have been tried in Illinois, and have failed for want of adaptation to our climate and soil. We speak now of the Baldwin, R. J. Greening, Roxbury, Russet, Eropus, Spritzenbery, and to a great extent, the Fall Pippin. And these, too, are the leading varieties of apples of trees which are scattered broadcast over the State by the tree agents from New York!

The varieties of apples we have mentioned, highly valued and certain and productive in New York, are discarded here by our most experienced orchardists. Fine productive orchards of these varieties four years ago, are now dead, and if their remains are not removed, they will bear unmistakable evidence of the truth of this record.

New York publications of the character of that herein referred to, mislead our people to their great inquiry. Our seasons, our soils and our climates, are peculiar. Trees that are hardy in New York, are tender here; trees that are productive there, and not so here; and some varieties of apples that are fine for winter in New York, are fall apples in Illinois.

These are some of the facts that call for the establishment of our State Horticultural Society. The duties of this Society, from the necessity or the case, are to ascertain what varieties of apples adapted to different purposes, can best be produced here—having regard to the hardiness and durability of the trees in our climate. Something has already been done; and our Illinois Nurseries are propagating these varieties of apple trees which answer best the purposes of fruit growers in our State.

We are constrained to say that when our farmers adopt the list of apples for cultivation which succeed best in western New York their time and money will be spent to little purpose.

We entirely concur in the opinion of Mr. Yeoman, on another branch of the subject matter of this article, which he presented in the discussion:

"The orchardist will find great advantage in growing large quantities of one kind of apples. Purchasers from abroad will give fifty cents per barrel more for a large lot barreled up in one orchard than for a lot made up of a few barrels each from a dozen orchards. In the latter case, they have to open and assort them before sending off. Shippers from Maryland offered \$2 per barrel for a thousand barrels, when the selling price was only \$1.25. At first was astonished at this, but when he came to consider the trouble of opening and assorting those packed up lots, and the loss, from poor and bruised specimens, thrown out saw very well that they could afford it. Some of those lots may be good, but others are poor, and so the good suffers for the bad; but where a large lot is put up well, the owner can command an extra price."

SHEEP KILLING DOGS.—These dogs can be made sick of mutton. Select the most vicious ram in the flock; tie your dog at one end of a rope and at thirty feet distance, the ram at the other end. The old mutton head will soon introduce himself to the dog, and will hammer him, in a little time so much as to give him a distaste for mutton all his days.

TO DELAY THE BLOSSOMING OF A TREE.—When the ground is frozen hard and deep, put over the roots of the tree a heavy coating of straw. This will delay the blossoming and often save a crop of fruit. This plan could be well applied to early Cherries and Apricots.

RHUBARB.—Samuel Edwards, of Bureau county, a gentleman of much experience, gives his testimony in favor of the Scotch Hybrid, as the best Rhubarb Plant for all purposes.

State Agricultural Society.

The Executive Committee met in this city on the 4th instant.

The following premiums were awarded:

Best 30 acres spring wheat, Hugh Huls, St. Charles; premium, Murray, Van Doren & Grover's Reaper and stacking Harvester.
Best 20 acres fall wheat, James Irvin, Randolph County; premium, I. H. Manny's Reaper and Mower.
Best 40 acres drilled wheat, Hugh Huls, St. Charles; premium, B. Kuhn & Co's Grain Drill.
Best 15 acres drilled wheat, Hugh Huls, St. Charles; premium, L. Moore's Grain Drill.
Best 10 acres drilled wheat, Hugh Easdale, Randolph County; premium, Selby & Jones' grain drill.
Best 5 acres fall wheat, Hugh Easdale; \$25.
Best 5 acres rye, Harrison Hancock, Tazewell county; \$25.
Best 5 acres corn, Hugh Easdale, Randolph County; \$25.
Best quarter acre white beans, Harrison Hancock; 20.
Second best Levi Mason, Bureau county; Medal.
Best half acre potatoes, Harrison Hancock, Tazewell county; \$20.
Best quarter acre sweet potatoes, Michel A. Lowe, Madison County; \$20.
Best acre clover seed, Hugh Huls, St. Charles; \$10.
Best acre castor bean, Robert Muir, Randolph; \$10.

PRODUCTS OF CHINESE AND AFRICAN SUGAR CANE.

Best specimen of sugar from Imphee, Mrs. N. M. T. Catter, Grundy county; silver medal.
Best specimen of sugar from Sorgho, O. B. Ostrander, M. D., Livingston county; silver medal.
Best specimen of syrup from Chinese Sugar Cane, N. E. Walton, Macoupin county; gold medal.
Second best do Benj. Van Hanton, Edgar county; \$15.
Third best do Olin Sholes, Whiteside county; \$10.
For fine specimen, G. A. Applebee, Cook county; silver medal.

ESSAYS.

On raising sheep and their adaptation to the prairies, A. B. McConnell, Sangamon county; \$10.
On the cultivation of orchards, C. R. Overman, Bloomington; \$10.
On Agriculture as connected with common schools, A. M. Gow, Dixon; \$10.
On practical gardening in Illinois, S. Francis, Springfield; \$10.
On the management of poultry, C. N. Bement, Springfield; \$10.
On the cultivation of rice in Illinois, J. Russell, Bluffdale; \$10.
On fruit gardens, S. J. Wallace, Hancock county; \$10.

ON FARMS.

Best highly improved and cultivated farm of 500 acres, S. N. Elliott, Edgar county; gold medal.
Best highly improved and cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty acres, Sylvester Rider, Wayne county; gold medal.
Second best do, A. G. Carle, Champaign county; silver medal.
Best highly improved and cultivated farm of 40 acres, A. & O. Barnard, Bloomington; gold medal.
Second best do, T. S. Atkinson, Whiteside county; silver medal.
Best grazing farm, J. M. Blackburn, Edgar county; gold medal.
Second best do, Fielding Scott, Champaign county; silver medal.
Best nursery of fruit trees: evergreens; shrubs, &c., L. Ellsworth & Co., Du Page county; Gold medal.
Second best do, A. N. Whitney, Franklin Grove; silver medal.
Best grove of cultivated timber, L. H. Thomas, Virden; gold medal.

The Board ordered that C. M. Webster, late President, be presented with a silver pitcher, properly engraved, as a testimony of this Society for his valuable services.

Biennial Meeting.

The biennial meeting of the Society was held in the capitol on the evening of the 5th Jan., 1859. The following persons were elected officers for the two years ensuing:

Lewis Elsworth, President.

1st District, C. B. Denio
2d do Wm. N. Van Epps
3d do John Girard
4th do A. Dunlap
5th do J. W. Singleton
6th do Stephen Dunlap
7th do Wm. Kile
8th do Samuel B. Chandler
9th do H. S. Osborn

Vice Presidents.

John Cook, Recording Secretary.
S. Francis, Recording Secretary.
J. W. Bunn, Treasurer.

The Constitution was so amended that the next election shall be held on the

fair grounds, by three delegates from each of the legally organized county Agricultural Societies in the State.

H. C. Johns, James M. Grew, John Williams, James G. Wright and John A. Davis, were appointed a committee to revise the Constitution and report at the next biennial meeting.

Meeting of the New Board.

The following appointments for the next fair were made:

Stephen Dunlap, of Morgan county, Superintendent of Class A.
C. W. Webster, Marion, Superintendent Class B.
A. W. Dunlap, Peoria, Superintendent Class C, D. and E.
Wm. Kile, Edgar, do do F.
N. S. Osborn, Perry, do do G.
J. W. Singleton, Adams, do do H.
C. B. Denio, Jo Daviess, do do I.
Wm. H. Van Epps, Lee, do do K.
Samuel B. Chandler, St. Clair, Sup't do L.
John Girard, Vermillion, do do M.
John P. Reynolds, Marion, do of the Grounds.

The consideration of continuing the premium for the steam plow, was postponed until the next meeting.

The Corresponding Secretary was directed to insert in the next volume of Transactions engravings of stock or implements, furnished without cost, of animals or machinery, which had taken the premiums of the Society within the last two years.

The board recommended the school districts of this State, to furnish themselves with libraries compiled and prepared by A. O. Moore.

The board adopted a plan of specifications for ground, fixtures, &c., for the next fair (which has been published in circulars and generally distributed.)

The board adjourned to meet in Springfield on the 22d day of February next.

PRUNING GRAPES.—This can be done now. Vine dressers have come to the opinion that the vines should not be as closely pruned as has been the practice, and that in this respect, we have followed too closely the practice of foreign gardeners and vine dressers. Good pruning and trimming will cause the vine to occupy all the trellis. Our soils are generally rich enough, but an application of leached ashes is beneficial.

Grapes should be planted where the roots will not be likely to stand in the water half of the year.

The Connecticut State Agricultural Society have adopted a resolution for locating the Fairs of that Society permanently.

Professor Turner, at Jacksonville, in his nursery, has a fine lot of thrifty English Walnuts. They seem to stand our climate well.

The Planting of New Orchards.

Much of this will be done the coming spring—and it is hoped that the experience of the few past years will be of service to our friends in selection of grounds for the orchards, and the procuring of the best trees for planting out. Orchards should not be planted on our flat, heavy prairie grounds.—High grounds, even if the soil is poor, are better, and if protected by timber on the north and west, success will be more probable. We do not believe a flourishing orchard can be found anywhere upon our black, heavy soil. We have in vain made inquiries to find a healthy and thrifty orchard on such grounds. Thousands and thousands of dollars have been wasted within the few past years in Illinois in planting out orchards on unsuitable lands, and probably as much more in purchasing trees unsuited to our climate. The matter is settled that young trees, grown here, are better and safer than trees grown in other climates, and in other soils. No man should buy trees because they are forced on him; but he should attend to his own business and go or send to nurseries of our State, where he can be well supplied, and the owners of which have an interest in doing him justice.—If persons who desire fruit trees, will give us a list of what they want, we will order them from any nursery they choose. This can be done promptly and they can have the trees as soon as the spring fairly opens, fresh and fine from the nurseries,

Botanical and Zoological Survey of the State.

These measures are being agitated among the people, and there are not a few of our most enlightened citizens who are in favor of appropriations by the State for their accomplishment.—We hold it to be a truth, that whenever the State has means these surveys should be made. The advancing condition of education in the farming classes of this State, will require knowledge of all its plants, all its animals, reptiles, insects, etc. When our farmers attain that degree of knowledge which it will be their interest and happiness to possess, they will desire to know the names and value of all the plants that may meet their eyes; they will also require knowledge of all animals, reptiles and insects, in-

jurious or beneficial to their business. Such surveys have been made in most of our States, and they have yielded an amount of knowledge most interesting and valuable. We want to know much of our earth—its vast mines of products; animal, vegetable, and mineral—the use of which Deity, for wise purposes, has placed in our hands. Why should we pass along in life and learn nothing of these great kingdoms of nature, a knowledge of which would be useful in our daily labors, and teach us to look up from "Nature to Nature's God."

F. Brendel, M. D., of Peoria, a distinguished Botanist, is now in our city, and his services could be secured for a Botanical survey of the State. J. A. Kennicott, is also favoring a Zoological survey, much of which has been already performed by his son, Robert Kennicott, who is now, and has been for some time, employed in the Natural History department of the Smithsonian Institution.

Industrial Universities.

Can there be a measure of greater and deeper importance than that contemplated by the Land Bill, introduced by Mr. Morrill, in the lower House of Congress? It certainly meets the approbation of the best and most liberal minds in our land. Passed by Congress, it would do much to promote the general diffusion of the arts and sciences in our country, and in the same ratio its progress and prosperity—and its productive industry.

Is the wisdom of our nation in Congress? Is high ambition there? Cares Congress for the respect of coming generations?—or, the general good of this great land? We shall see! Actions are what bear honors and produce results! Congress! well may you listen, plan and act, when the interests of the nation calls upon you.

SAMUEL JACOB WALLACE.

A SCENE.—At the Hopkinsville (Tenn.) Fair, ten brothers, named Brown, all mounted on fine grey horses, rode into the amphi theatre and displayed their horsemanship, all being good riders. The eldest was aged forty and the youngest twenty. They had not all been together for fifteen years. Their mother was present, and they reined up before the venerable matron and saluted her, while she shed tears of joy and pride.

P. Hamilton, of McDonough county, raised last year two acres of Hungarian grass—on one acre he raised four tons and sixteen hundred pounds, and on the other four tons.

"Nothing New under the Sun."

Editor of the Farmer:—

I have been interested in the notices published of the discussions at the meeting of the State Horticultural Society at Bloomington, and especially what was said in regard to the protection of Fruit Trees and general crops, and plants in the gardens, and dwellings, from the winds of spring and early summer that sweep over our prairies. If you have not lived upon the prairie, you can hardly realize how much we suffer from these winds. Look at our young orchards—see them leaning all one way. It is often so with our grain, corn and other crops. And these winds whistle about our horses, destroying our flowers and trouble us exceedingly in our gardens. We can improve our farms, plant orchards, put out vines, fruit shrubbery and ornamental shrubbery; but we have no means of staying these devastating winds.

You will not wonder, then, that I read Mr. Edward's remarks on the culture of Evergreens for protection, with great interest and pleasure. I was glad to learn from him, and others, that this system of protection by evergreens was no theory, but established truths. Mr. A. Bryant, of Bureau county, said, indeed, that two rows of evergreens were equal to a solid building for protection.

But it seems that "There is nothing new under the Sun." The declaration of the old Hebrew monarch is most certainly true in regard to the protection of ground from raging winds, granting that Homer tells the truth. (*Quere.*) Had Mr. Edwards been reading Homer?—We shouldn't wonder for Mr. E. is a great lover of Nature, and Nature is poetry.) In the odyssey there is a description of a garden in the Island of Corcyra. It was a beautiful garden filled with trees and shrubs and fountains. In it apples ripened with crimson and gold, figs were found of the most delicious plumpness; pomegranates glowed with a deep red; pear-trees drooped with their juicy fruit; and the olive flourished in perpetual verdure.—While the shrubs and trees were laden with ripe and delicious fruit, the same shrubs and trees showed blossoms for new harvests. The vines were filled with grapes in all the stages of growth, from the blossom to luscious ripeness. And fountains scathed their crystal waters around, giving freshness and beauty to tree, and shrub, and plant.

And what protected this beautiful garden from the winds passing over the waters, that often swept and howled around it? Homer tells us?

"The garden was defended by walls and trees from the winds and tempests. *The whole area was fenced with a green enclosure on all sides.*" In other words

it was fenced with *Evergreens*. Just as Mr. Edwards says we must defend and protect our grounds from the bleak and stormy winds and the vicissitudes of the weather.

I am not disposed to make light of this matter. What Homer wrote three thousand years ago, in regard to garden cultivation in that early portion of the history of the world, is interesting to us in these latter days. The free translation of a passage in his writings which we have given, (and we have not reached the beauty of his descriptions,) shows the taste and practice in Horticulture in that early period of times. We doubt if there can be found in our days, a garden of more true beauty than that described as belonging to the Prince Alcinous.

For years the question has been mooted, can evergreens be made to flourish on our prairies? It is now answered by Mr. Edwards, Mr. Bryant, and others, that they can, as evidences of the truth of what they say, they point to their magnificent belts of Evergreens around portions of their farms. The question then follows—can these evergreens be purchased at prices within the means of those who would enjoy their benefits? And this question has not been answered. The writer believes that, if evergreen plants can be had at low prices—sufficiently low to justify farmers in planting them around their dwellings, gardens and orchards, for protection, from winds and storms.

Many years will not elapse before our prairie orchards, gardens and dwellings will be protected beautified by belts of trees forming what Homer terms, "green enclosure." J.


A. Case, of White county, Indiana, thus gives his experience in cultivating and manufacturing the product of an acre and a half of Chinese Sugar Cane:

	Dr.	
Cost of cultivation.....	\$80 00.	
	Cr.	
By 200 gallons molasses at 60 cts.....	\$120 00	
By 40 bushels cane seed at 37½c.....	15 00	
By cane leaves.....	5 00	
Total.....	\$140 00	
Deduct.....	80 00	
Profit.....	\$ 60 00	

Much was lost by imperfect machinery. We believe with good machinery, syrup can be made for 15 and 20 cts. per gallon—when the crop of cane is good.


DOG DISTEMPER.—Porter's Spirit gives the following recipe for the cure of dogs having the distemper:—"As soon as you discover the dog is sick, throw down his throat a handful of salt three times a day—for three or four days." The remedy has proved successful in more than thirty cases."

THE SMALL FRUITS.—The Connecticut *Homestead* states that at a meeting of a Farmers Club in that State, "the opinion was advanced, and not disputed, that to the female portion of the community, our wives and daughters, properly belongs the care and culture of the small fruits, as the strawberry, the gooseberry, the currant, the raspberry, and the blackberry, for the regular supply of the table, now that they are relieved from those heavy duties of clothing the family, which formerly devolved upon them; not that they should be without assistance in the severer labors, but let them acquire the skill to direct them, and they will find willing hands to do their bidding, and they will find themselves at once in a great field of happiness and usefulness, and one in which their labor, instead of inducing fatigue, will be but the means of securing increasing health and strength."

WHY SOWS DESTROY THEIR YOUNG.—An old farmer says in the Connecticut *Homestead* that "costiveness and its accompanying evils, is the main cause of sows destroying their young—and proper food is the preventive and cure.— Green food is the cure."


QUINCES.—Why are not more quince trees planted out? On dry, loose, sandy or gravelly soil, they grow well and produce abundantly, and the fruit brings high prices. They should be planted about ten feet apart, and then do not neglect them. Don't think of growing good quinces on heavy, black, wet soil.


GOLD.—The question is often asked what becomes of all the gold taken from the mines in so many countries and in such large quantities? It is estimated that \$200,000,000 worth of gold and silver are annually taken from the earth, and what is done with it? It is evident that but a small portion of it is turned into currency, for if it were the effect would be injurious to the prices of articles necessary to life. But, when we reflect upon the extravagance of the age, the use of gold on ordinary household articles, in the fine arts, for purposes of luxury, jewelry, and in a thousand other ways which the vanity and pride of humanity readily suggests, the question is easily answered. It is stated that in the English cities alone, \$50 000 per week are used in the manufacture of China ware, and other similar articles. The amount thus used is nearly all lost. There is no danger of having currency too plenty, as long as the human appetite for gewgaws and frivolous ornament is capable of being gratified by a plentiful use of the precious metals.


 Some young ladies from the back settlements, in the Aroostook county, Me. come "out", to one of the towns in the county to meeting one Sunday not long since. Of course the hospitalities of the neighborhood were extended to the visitors, and just as the family were sitting down to dine, one of them addressed the astonished company as follows:—"I s'pose ye don't know who I be. I'm the man's gal what was almost killed by the bull" Some of the younger members had no appetite for dinner.

Washington's Birth-Day.

This memorable day in our national calendar is at hand. It is second only to the jubilee of our national independence. Both events are proud ones in our history. Both deserve to kindle anew with each returning anniversary, the glow of patriotism in the bosoms of old and young. It will be a sad presage for the future glory of America, when the birth-day of our national freedom, of the nativity of the great Leader and Deliverer in the dark times of the Revolutionary struggle, shall pass unheeded by. For our children's sake, let the natal day of the great Washington be ushered in with due and fitting honor. Let beauty bring its wreaths to garland the memory of him whom the united homage of the world has recognized as the representative man of modern times, as he has been "first in the hearts of his countrymen." We have ventured these reflections to call the attention of our citizens to the propriety of promptly arranging some appropriate observance of the approaching anniversary of Washington's birth. Especially fitting would it be, as an expression of sympathy in the interesting national movement, prompted and conducted by the spirited women of the United States—our mothers, sisters and daughters—to secure to the national possession, the home and grave of the illustrious Father of our Country. It can need only, we think, the preliminary suggestions of a few of our young men, to array in cordial union the sympathies of our entire community in an object which appeals to the common heart of all. Let our hearts be gladdened once more by the stir of the warm glow of American patriotism. Let us redeem one day, when all can meet together as sharers in the unspeakable blessings of free institutions—sharers in the honor and prosperity of our free country, sharers in the renown and glory associated with the great name of him whose memory will be forever and inseparably associated with all that is great in our past history, and will deserve fresh honors with every advancing age in our national development.

 L. B. Allen has collected materials nearly sufficient for the fourth volume of the American Herd Book.—Breeders who have neglected to do so, should send pedigrees so as to reach him in the early part of this month.

 Socrates called beauty a short lived tyranny; Plato, a privilege of nature; Theophrastus, a silent cheat; Theocritus, a delightful prejudice; Carneades, a solitary kingdom; Domitian said, that nothing was more grateful; Aristotle affirmed, that beauty was better than all the letters of recommendation in the world; Homer, that 'twas a glorious gift of nature, and Ovid, alluding to it, calls it a favor bestowed by the gods.

 Rigaud, the painter, being one day employed in painting the portrait of a lady, when he perceived when he came to the lower part of the face that she contracted her lips in a most violent manner, in order that she might appear to have a little mouth; upon which the artist said to her very gravely, "Be not uneasy, Madam; if you choose, I shall make no mouth at all."

MAIL ROBBER HELD TO ANSWER—Frank Buchanan, the mail robbing Postmaster at Beverly Wisconsin, who was detected through the agency of Dr. Lieb of Chicago, special Post Office agent, was examined before Judge Miller at Milwaukee Saturday, and held to answer in default of \$2,000. The evidence of his guilt is conclusive.

COMMERCIAL.

St. Louis Market--Feb. 5.

Flour--Sales of 1,000 bbls city superfine delivered at \$5 12½; 800 do country superfine, 500 do city superfine; 300 do country extra, and 200 do double extra country, all on private terms; 85 country superfine \$5 25; 500 do city extra \$6; 200 half bbls do \$3 25.

Wheat--Only a small portion of receipts sold, and market declined 3 to 5c. Sales of 100 sbs poor and common at from 90c to \$1; 63 do common 103c; 141 do fair 105c; 150 do common and fair 104½c; 817 do prime 113c; 75 do choice white 118c.

Corn--Sales of 300 sbs yellow at 76c; 500 do white 77c; 150 and 258 sbs private; 300 sbs in the ear 70c; 5000 bush in the ear, delivered at a point above 70.

Oats--75 sbs light sold at 65c, and 108 do fair 76c.

Pork--108 bbls clear sold at \$20; 500 do mess \$19; 107 and 250 M 18; 350 do shoulder pork \$13 90.

Bulk Meat--12,000 rib sides sold at \$1½c; 3,500 shoulders, hams and sides at 6, 8 and 8½c; 10,000 shoulders at Alton at 6 1 10c.

Lard--Sale of 30 tcs at 11½c.

Bacon--10,000 loose hams sold at 9½c; 20 casks rib sides at 9½c.

Whisky--Sales of 37 bbls at 26½c, and 25 do at 27c.

St. Louis Live Stock Market--Feb. 5.

Bellevue Stock Yards.

BEEF CATTLE--But few on the market and demand rather light for shipping, with sales varying from 7 to 7½ for net; one lot averaging 817 lbs net, sold for 7½c net--Butchers paying at retail prices for common to fair 2½ to 3c gross, for good to choice 6½ to 7½c net, with sales of a few extra at 8c.

HOGS--In good demand for butcher's use at 7 to 7½ net, with few on the market.

SHEEP--Scarce and selling readily at prices ranging from \$2 to \$5 per head for common to choice.

COWS AND CALVES--Supply limited, with a fair demand at \$20 to \$40 per head, according to quality.

New York Cattle Market--Feb. 2.

A. M. Allerton & Co., proprietors of the Washington Drive Yards, Forty-fourth street, report the cattle in market from the following States:

New York.....	776	Kentucky.....	135
Pennsylvania.....	34	Iowa.....	84
Ohio.....	678	New Jersey.....	23
Indiana.....	176	Michigan.....	51
Illinois.....	379	Canada.....	33

BEEF CATTLE.

Number reported for this market at Forty-fourth street, 2,000. The prices to day are quoted as follows:

First quality.....	10½@11c
Medium.....	9 @10c
Ordinary.....	7 @8c
Some extra good beefs may be quoted at 11½@12c	
The general average of the market at.....	@9c
The most of the sales range from.....	8½@10c

Total number of beefs received in the city this week...2,958

This is 94 head more than last week, and 722 head more than the average of last year. The average number at each Wednesday market last year was 2,782 head, while the number to-day being 2,000, shows 782 head less than the average, and 72 head more than this day week.

CALVES.

Veal calves are still in good demand if they are good; such will sell quick at 7@8c per lb, live weight.

SHEEP.

Sales of sheep at \$3.50 to \$4.40 per head. Lambs, \$4.

HOGS.

Heavy hogs scarce, held at 7c gross; light range from 5c to 6½c gross; stock hogs dull at 4¼@5c; heavy distillery 6¼c.

Corneau & Diller,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

DRUGGISTS,

WOULD RESPECTFULLY INFORM

their friends and the public that they have removed to their NEW STORE, east side of the Square, where they would be happy to receive their former patrons and as many new ones as will be pleased to call upon them. Their stock of

DRUGS AND MEDICINES

Is entirely fresh and warranted genuine. All their preparations are made in strict accordance with the United States Pharmacopoeia, and are reliable. They keep on hand every article usually obtained in a well furnished

DRUG-STORE,

And would invite all in want, to remember them.

P. S.--Those indebted to them by note or account would confer a favor by settling the same as soon as they possibly can. jan22dw2m

RESOLVED, BY UNANIMOUS CON-

sent, that hedging on the prairies is a decided success where it has had a fair shake."

Overman & Mann, Commercial Nursery, near Bloomington, offer for the spring trade of 1859, about eleven millions of Macra Hedge Plants, two years old, of superior quality. Also, apple root grafts, in box, and one and two years old, small fruits, evergreens, shrubbery, &c., &c. Prices and terms unusually favorable. Give us a call without fail. Hedge-grower's Manual sent to all applications.

Address Overman & Mann, (Box 600) Bloomington Illinois. jan27-fw

MYERS

LES AT
H. C. MYERS & CO.

ILLINOIS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL
UNLIMITED

AND CONSTANTLY

INCREASING.

PRESENT FUND

for the payment of

LOSSES BY FIRE
\$1,000,000 00.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AT ALTON, ILL.

THIS COMPANY WAS CHARTERED

in 1839, and insures, at a moderate cost, almost every species of property in Illinois against Loss or Damage by Fire. The rates of risk are so arranged that each class of property insured will support its own loss.

Every one insured becomes a member--the Company being an association of customers--each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. The capital augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks; the security for which remains in the hands of the insured; therefore, every member is the treasurer of his own money until the same is required for the purpose of paying losses.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tim. Turner,	Lyman Trumbull,	H. W. Billings,
Benj. F. Long,	Samuel Wade,	M. G. Atwood,
John James,	L. Kellenberger,	Robert Smith,
Henry Lea,	Elias Hibbard,	Alfred Dow,
F. A. Hoffmann,	B. K. Hart,	John Atwood,

B. F. LONG, President.

L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.

M. G. ATWOOD, Secretary.

JOHN ATWOOD, Asst Secretary.

JOHN BLAISDELL, Gen'l Agent.

Application for insurance may be made to the Local Agents, one or more of whom may be found in every county in the State. JAMES L. HILL, Agent. jan10 d3mwly

Garden Seeds,

FOR SALE BY

S. FRANCIS, Springfield Ill.

Asparagus, Artichoke. BEANS, FOR SNAPS--Valentine, Early Newington, Thousand to One, Early Mohawk, Early China, White Cranberry Bunch, Royal White Bunch.

BEAN, POLE--London Horticultural Cranberry, Liva, Lima, Red Cranberry, Indian Chief.

CABBAGE--Early Richeford, Early York, Red Dutch, Early Sugar Leaf, Premium Flat Dutch, Large American Drumhead, Drumhead and Struwwites, Kohl Rabi.

CAULIFLOWER--Early London.

CORN--Early Red Cob Sweet Mammoth Sweet, Early Tuscarora, &c, Smith's Early White.

BEETS--Early Basadore, Early Blood Turnip, Long Blood Red, Mangel Wurtzel, &c., English Sugar Beet, &c., White Sugar.

CUCUMBERS--Short Green Early, Long London, Long Turkey, Gherkin, &c.

CELERY--Solid white, chrysal white, solid red.

CRESP--Curled double, proud leaf.

CARROT--Common yellow, early horn, blood red, Belgium yellow.

EGG PLANT--Early long purple.

KALE--Sea kale.

LETTUCE--Joe coss, early Liberia, green drumhead, &c., early white, joe coss.

MELON--(Cantalope), pine apple, nutmeg, beach wood, green citron, large yellow cantalope.

WATER MELON--Mountain sprout, mountain sweet, Long Island, ice cream, black Spanish, citrou melons, nasturtium, okra, short and long green.

ONION--Large Wetherfield red, early red, Denver's yellow, yellow silver skin, white Portugal.

PEPPER--Large bull nose, large squash, Spanish, cherry, small cayenne.

PEAS--Early constocks dwarf, Berthol's long pod, champion of England, dwarf Prussian, large marrowfat, Prince Albert.

PUMPKIN--Large yellow field, parsnip, long sweet.

PARSLEY--Double curled, Myatt's gunishing.

RHUBARB--Mitchell's early, Myatt's Victoria, Spinach.

SQUASHES (winter)--Autumnal marrow, winter crookneck, Lima cornucopia, Hubbard's winter.

SQUASHES (summer)--Early crookneck bush, early yellow bush.

TURNIP--Flat Dutch, early six weeks and various varieties.

TOBACCO--Varieties.

TOMATO--Large red, red cherry, yellow.

SAGE--Common red.

RADISH--Early red turnip, early long red short top, long salmon, black Spanish, salsify (white), surcouera.

SEEDS of various garden herbs.

FLOWER SEEDS--In great variety--embracing a hundred sort.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE SEEDS--and various other seeds for garden and field usually found at Seed Stores. For sale by

S. FRANCIS.

SOUTHERN COAL MINES.

BETHALTO, ILLINOIS.--WE ARE NOW

prepared to furnish coal of the best quality, loaded on cars at our switch, and deliverable on the line of St. A. & C. Railroad. Persons wishing to contract for any quantity can be accommodated by addressing T. SOUTHER, Alton, Illinois. jan10 d3m

GARDENER WANTED.

A MAN WHO HAS PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, and understands general farm work, will be required. One who could take charge of the same if necessary, and manage a fruit garden, preferred. Can furnish house for family, and would be willing if practicable, to contract system for mutual benefits after the first year. Wages moderate.

Applicants can communicate with the undersigned at Athens, Illinois. ELIHU HALL. feb9 1t*

Springfield Book Store.

JOHNSON & BRADFORD.

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS.

SCHOOL BOOKS,

All the various varieties used in this section.

JUVENILE BOOKS

From numerous authors and publishers.

PAPERS

In large quantities.

FOOLS CAP,

Various prices and qualities.

COMMERCIAL NOTE

Papers in large quantities and varieties.

LETTER PAPER.

Various quantities and prices.

ENVELOPES.

150,000, consisting of all sizes and varieties.

500 GROSS

Steel pens, various kinds.

--INK--

Inkstands--Sealing-Wax--Wafers.

PENCILS.

Large variety gold pens from the best makers in the country

LARGE VARIETY POCKET BOOKS.

PEN KNIVES.

Stationers' Tin Ware.

Large variety of fancy articles and everything usually kept by Booksellers and Stationers.

JOHNSON & BRADFORD.

BLANK BOOKS.

We have a large stock of blank books, consisting of

Medium Ledger, Journal, Day-Book.

Demi " " "

Cap " " "

Small blank books,

all kinds and varieties to suit all the wants of the public.

DIARIES FOR 1859.

We have several dozen of various sizes and prices.

BACKGAMMON BOARDS.

CHECKERS! CHECKERS!!

CHESS.

Several prices and kinds.

DOMINOES.

OUR BOOK BINDERY.

We have a very large stock of binders and materials, and pay particular attention to the manufacture of blank books to any pattern and in any form.

Particular attention paid to rebinding old books, binding periodicals, &c., &c. JOHNSON & BRADFORD.

ANNUALS.

GIFT BOOKS--We have and will have the best to be had in the market.

dec11-city papers copy.] JOHNSON & BRADFORD.

Singer's Sewing Machines.

Western Office, 140 Lake Street, Chicago.

I. M. SINGER & CO. HAVING ESTABLISHED a Western office for the sale of their Machines,

would call the attention of the ladies of Springfield to their FAMILY SEWING MACHINE.

Which is the latest presented for competition. It is the most easily operated of any machine ever made. Their machines, for manufacturing purposes, have no equal.

A. W. HARRIS, Western Agent,

140 Lake street, Chicago.

A copy of I. M. Singer & Co.'s Gazette will be furnished GRATIS on application. ang10 6m C.H.S.

McROBERTS & JESS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CON-

fectioners, dealers in candies, preserves, green and dried fruits, nuts, provisions, country produce, &c.

Address Post Office box 893. McR BERTS & JESS, ang19-w Springfield, Illinois

B. F. FOX,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STOCK one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Running Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREHOUSE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Bells, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bitts, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Siple's Morticing Machines, Files, &c.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Buttresses, &c.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, &c.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholme's Butcher's and other's, Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Carvers, &c. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and double-barrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a Hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers' prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Roseates, Rings, Snaffles, Bitts, Pouches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Mastin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Bows, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belling, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.
May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX.

THE ILLINOIS**Mutual Fire Insurance Co.**

LOCATED AT ALTON ILLINOIS.

CHARTERED FEB. 23, 1839. ORGANIZED APRIL 4, 1839.

Amount of premium notes in force February 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of Losses,

\$800,000.00,

Secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over

\$9,000,000!

THIS company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufacturing, mills, barns, stables and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the State, from

LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE!

The Directors feel justified in recommending this company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member, the company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks, the capital of the company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this company is so low, as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LYMAN TRUMBULL,	ELIAS HIBBARD,	L. KELLENBERGER,
BENJ. F. LONG,	SAMUEL WADE,	ALFRED DOW,
ROBERT SMITH,	JOHN JAMES,	BENJ. K. HART,
TIMOTHY TURNER,	HENRY LEA,	JOHN BARRAGE,
M. G. ATWOOD,	NATH'L HANSON,	JOHN ATWOOD,

LEWIS KELLENBERGER, Treas. M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.

An Agent for this Company may be found in almost every County of the State.

Application for insurance may be made to
JAMES L. HILL, Agent,
at Springfield.

STAR CORN MILL,

For Grinding Corn, Cob, Hominy or Meal and General Stock Feed.

WE DELIVER THIS MILL AT ANY point, or from our wagons, that run through the different parts of the country, at the manufacturer's retail price, which is, for the mill complete, \$60.

Orders, or letters of inquiry should be addressed to HUNT, PYKE & Co., Springfield, Ill.

We need but say that where the Star Mill has been used, it has gained credit beyond all other Mills now in use; and the farmer only needs to see and try it in order to become convinced that it is perfect in its arrangement from the fact that it grinds green as well as old corn, (corn and cob passing through it together,) which no other Mill will do. Farmers and stock-growers can save from 30 to 40 bushels of corn in each 100 by the use of this Mill: (at least we have certificates to that effect.) Persons having once experienced its benefit, will never return to the wasteful practice of feeding corn in the ear.

It will undoubtedly make good meal of shelled corn for family use.

The Mill grinds from twelve to twenty bushels per hour, and makes an easy draft for two horses.

We can produce first premiums, diplomas, and recommendations too numerous to mention.

For full particulars, references and description of Mills, see circulars.

N. B.—Persons can be supplied with a Star Mill, and also see one in operation by calling at the Agricultural Store of FRANCIS & BARRELL, Jan 1, 1855.

Authorized Agents.

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,	Wm. Pollinger,
J. J. Short,	David Newson,
John W. Beck,	Uriah Mann,
John Kavanaugh,	Philemon Stout.

Saugamon county, Jan 1st, 1855.
From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER, Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

aug-4-wlv

B. B. LLOYD, DENTIST,

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OFF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Conell, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 1853.

Sweet Potato Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (see advertisement of early Nansmond potatoes) feb1 S. FRANCIS.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR POTASH!**CONCENTRATED LYE!**

A FAMILY ARTICLE.

For making soap without Lime, and with little or no trouble and trifling expense.

THE CHEAPEST AND MOST CONVE- NIENT article ever offered to the public for that purpose. EVERY FAMILY can make all the soap they use from their ordinary kitchen grease, and this Lye. Nothing else is required.

ONE POUND BOX will make 25 gallons of fine soft soap, or nine pounds of elegant hard soap, and several gallons of soft.

A single trial will convince any one of its great utility and cheapness.

PRINTERS, and all others using a strong Lye, will find the "Concentrated" three hundred per cent. cheaper than anything else they can use.

For sale by all the Druggists and Grocers in the country.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!

Manufactured only by the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company, Pittsburg, Pa., who manufacture extra superfine snow white TABLE, DAIRY and PORK PACKERS SALT, warranted free from all impurities, and the only really pure salt made in this country.

Caustic soda, for soap makers, soda ash, refined soda ash, sal soda, bleaching powder, bleaching liquor, manganese, nitric acid, muriatic acid, aqua for is, chloroform, soda saleratus. sept6-daw4m farmer2m

For sale wholesale and retail, by

J. B. FOSSELMAN, Druggist.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Dene.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style.

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and

Giddes Double Harrow.

Ox Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. (Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kind of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and sub-soiling.

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But, notwithstanding all the efforts of wise and good men, aided by Divine Providence, to prevent the pursuits of the field from falling into degradation, they did so fall. In all countries of the olden time, the toils of the field were held in lower estimation than was their

real worth. The political arena, the priesthood, and the strifes of war, offered brighter glories and more dazzling rewards than the quiet and honest labors of husbandry. The popular sentiment was everywhere in favor of the prizes of ambition, which the fancied greatness of official power and warlike distinction could confer. To the call of the conqueror thousands readily gave heed, because they were lured by the prospect of an easy and glorious life at the expense of the victor's spoils. The spoils of war might make the successful soldier wealthy all at once, and then, as he fancied, he would have no further trouble, and would be great. In comparison with such a prospect, his tranquil and steady pursuits at home dwindled into nothing.

Mankind, at an early date, gave evidence of eager readiness to live by plundering their fellow men. This propensity is singularly exhibited in the character of all inferior grades of civilization. Not only the Indians of America, but the rude tribes of every continent, despise the labors of regular industry, while they are enthusiastic in their love and practice of arms. War has tended greatly to retard, depress and degrade the character of agriculture. It has deluded the laborer from the plow, to wear the gaudy decorations of Mars. It has devastated the fields, and spread famine over the world. It has prostrated the arm of quiet and productive industry, by the offer of higher glories on the theater of military strife, and by stimulating the hope of riches by means of sudden triumph over unoffending neighbors. It has deceived its votaries by assurances of a short and easy road to wealth, while farms and fields and flocks were left to wasting and neglect.

Nor has war been the only means of depressing the ancient and honorable employments of the farmer. Capital has been a powerful antagonist of this great interest. The same ambitious prowess which wrested the honest toiler from the plow, also managed to monopolize the gains of plundering war. The soldiers that fought the battles of their chieftain seldom obtained a just share of the spoils. The highest honors have not generally satisfied the aspiring leaders in human strifes; they appropriated to themselves exclusively, all the valuable acquisitions, while the toiling and hardy soldier was put off with eloquent speeches and flattering promises never to be redeemed. The capital thus accumulated by the crafty few has always been the special favorite of the same few in their legislative enactments. The legislation of the world has always been partial to capital and neglectful of labor; hence but little favor has been shown to the workers whose hardy toil cultiva-

ted the fields and made them remunerative to the owners.

False views regarding education have had no small share in retarding the progress of agriculture, and depressing the rank of those laboring in it. Learning has been regarded as useful, chiefly to acquire shining distinctions of office and power. In this view of letters and science, no one was deemed worthy of a polite education, unless he was destined for the honors of official rank. For the laborer that tilled the ground, knowledge was held to be useless. As the only service required of him was that of the body, of course it was a matter of no concern whether he possessed a mind. The more brute-like he could be rendered in activity, strength and endurance of body, the more valuable would he be to his employer. If a laborer, he could perform more service; if a soldier, he would escape death by fatigue and want, and be most likely to last until felled by the weapon of a foe. I tell you friends, that to make beasts of burden, pack horses and draught horses of the million masses of mankind, was the procedure of the ancients, and in most countries of Europe and Asia, the same brutalizing inhumanity still prevails.

Now, I do not pretend to affirm that every person should be equally educated, for this is impossible; nor, that all should aspire to be philosophers, poets, orators, statesmen, physicians and divines. Not so; because there must be men to labor with the hoe; the spade and the plow, and besides so long as men think the rank of eminent learning more praiseworthy than eminent skill in the use of the hoe and the plow, just so long will valuable labor and the laborer be depressed. The odious distinctions of caste by which five hundred out of every five hundred and one are doomed to inferiority of rank, can never be consistent with the rational equality with which all men are regarded in the eyes of God. But the one most effectual remedy for the unfounded disparities now existing, is Education. For this purpose must the rural population be educated. In this country, where the access to earning is equally open to all, without distinction of rank, I ought rather to say the rural and agricultural laborers ought to regulate themselves. Books, periodicals, schools, churches, literary associations abound among us, and open their graceful portals in persuasive invitation to us all. The son or daughter of the laboring farmer may open the same books, enter the same schools and colleges, and sit side by side in the same lecture room, and be instructed by the same teacher, and be rewarded by the same literary distinctions, with the sons and daughters of statesmen, generals,

philosophers, presidents, governors and heroes.

If in this country, the farming community are not properly educated and elevated in society, it is chiefly their own fault.

But in what shall they be instructed? If they intend to continue at the toils of their honorable calling, they need not attempt to ramble over the whole cyclopaedia of knowledge. They need not be erudite philologists, surely, nor profound mathematicians, nor richly stored with the systems of theologic lore. But certainly they ought to be good arithmeticians, well practised in the ordinary rules of book-keeping, thoroughly versed in the well-established facts of chemistry, physiology, botany, geology and mineralogy; and they ought to possess a good acquaintance with the history, political organization, and the national character of the American people. These things certainly, they ought to know, though there is nothing in the whole round of learning to which the rural community ought not to have ready access, in case they should think proper to press their inquiries still farther.

But, my friends, in referring to the causes by which the cultivators of the soil have been depressed, I should not be true to the subject and the occasion, if I should make no allusion to slavery, as one of the most degrading to labor of every kind. To the injurious influences of war, reference has already been made, but not only in the manner already indicated did war debase agriculture, but it carried the work of debasement still farther by becoming an instrument for the introduction and establishment of slavery.

The captives taken in battle, from time immemorial, have been reduced to servitude, and wars have been the fruitful source of slavery. Slavery, in its turn, has degraded human toil. Work has been loaded upon the captured slave. The condition of the slave has always been that of inferiority and degradation; and for this reason, the work to which his master dooms him is also a degradation.

Slavery prevailed among the Israelites long anterior time of Moses. The Hebrew patriarchs were slaveholders, and the condition of bondmen, was a prominent feature in all the social organization of the ancients, from a very remote antiquity.

In the time of Joseph's administration in Egypt, the whole laboring population of that country was brought under a species subjection similar to that which now prevails in despotic Russia, and some other nations of modern times. When the famine afflicted them, the people parted with their money, their cattle, their lands and themselves, fo

the sake of saving their lives; and ever after they were required to pay to the monarch one-fifth of all the productions of the soil, for the privilege of cultivating the lands of their rulers.

The ancient province of Attica, of which Athens was the capital, is said to have had a population of 550,000 people; 400,000 were deemed to be servants and slaves, from whom were withheld the rights of citizenship.

The vast dominion of the Roman empire is believed to have extended over 120,000,000 of human beings; and Mr. Gibbon, the historian of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," informs us that about one half of the whole population were slaves.

In our time there is reason to believe that more than one half of the ten hundred millions of people who dwell on the globe, are slaves to the remaining minority. In such a condition of society, where laborious industry is degraded by servitude, what better can be expected but that the laboring classes, whether in the field or the workshop, should be held in odious disesteem, and doomed to ignorance? When here in this boasted "land of the free and home of the brave," the enervating and degrading influences of slavery are seen by comparing the healthy intelligence and prosperous activity of any of the free States with any of the slave States. In the slave portions of our country, even a freeman who is obliged to labor, suffers by the degradation to which his labor is reduced by the slavery around him. A freeman that toils by the side of a bondman is not as much esteemed as the bondman. Such is the pitchy darkness of this ruinous and dreadful evil among men. If the tillage of the ground is to be performed by slaves, then is tillage a mean pursuit, dooming its pursuer to the lowest ignominy which the heart of proud man conceives.

Nor is this all: Slavery has its gradations, and is various in its forms. To avoid the odium of maintaining it, men sometimes change its forms. Abject dependence is servitude—it is slavery. be its name what it may.

Slavery, at the very first, gave to a few over the many a monopoly in the lands. That monopoly still abides, even in countries where slavery in name is not tolerated by law. A monopoly of lands leads to slavery, as certainly as does slavery, when it comes first, lead to a monopoly of lands. The one, no matter which, is sure to be produced by the other.

In Britain, for example, there is scarcely less degradation in labor than there is among the slave territories of the south; and no wonder it is so, for the soil in Britain is not owned by the families who work it. According to Mc

Culloch, there are 77,007,040 acres of land in the United Kingdom, including the small islands adjacent. In a population of not less than twenty-eight millions, the entire lands are owned by only fifty thousand proprietors, each one having an average of a little more than fifteen hundred and forty acres; so that, in every community of five hundred and sixty inhabitants, there is only one who is an owner of lands, though there are many persons who are many persons who are cultivators of it. Some of the estates of the English aristocracy are enormous, even to the extent of five hundred thousand (500,000) acres. Nor is this all; but "these large dominions" says Emerson, "are growing larger. The great estates are absorbing the small freeholds. In 1786, the soil of England was owned by 200,000 corporations and proprietors, and in 1822, by only 32,000. All over England, scattered at short intervals among shipyards, mills mines and forges, are the paradises of the noble, where the lifelong repose and refinement are heightened by the contrast with the roar of industry and necessity."

Previous to the revolution in France, two-thirds of the lands were owned by the nobles and the church; yet both the nobles and the clergy were exempted from several of the most burdensome taxes imposed by the government. The plea for this exemption was, "That the nobles defended the State by the swords, while the priests interceded for it by their prayers." During the same period of landed monopoly, not one in fifty of the people was able to read; and their taxes were oppressive and degrading. If the products of an acre, for example, were worth \$13.76, the portion taken by the king was \$8.40, and the proprietor took \$3.96, while the farmer, who performed the labor, was compelled to be contented with \$1.40, not quite one-tenth of the product of his own hard toil. Nor in France only, but in all the despotic governments of the world, labor has been oppressed by exorbitant taxation to support the cunning fiction of the "divine right of kings," while the laboring millions, both in the field and the workshop, have been doomed to subjection.

Perhaps in a future number of the "Farmer," we shall attempt an additional talk on Agriculture, intended to point out more distinctly the means whereby this necessary and noble pursuit may be elevated to its rightful dignity among the callings of men.

TO KNIT HEELS—To knit heels of socks double, so that they may thus last twice as long as otherwise, skip every alternate stitch on the wrong side and knit all on the right.—This will make it double, like that of a double ply ingrain carpet.

The Farmer a Learner.

What other worker in the wide field of human industry is so fully dependent upon himself in judgment, knowledge, and practice as the Farmer. The mechanic can demonstrate by figures, illustrations and mathematical examinations and a failure can generally be remedied, by immediately repeated trials,—not so the farmer; his labors are annual—in spring he sows, and in autumn garners the harvest. A failure generally admits of little additional experiment until another revolution of the Great Time Keeper proclaims the season of active labor again at hand. While the mechanics opportunities for improvement of hand labor are frequent much of the farmers recurs only at long intervals. A power beyond the farmers reach, is coworker with him—hence he can make no previous, calculations as to result of labor amounting to anything more than estimates, as he is frequently disappointed when he considered success the surest.

The developments of every day affects the farmer.—the passing cloud—the falling rain—the smothering heat—the pinching cold—the howling blasts, all conspire to keep him on the watch—to continue him in the harness seat.

More than for other occupations he needs to be educated in all the senses. That he may possess the fullest development he needs the eye, the ear, the touch, the nose and palate educated to their highest point of detective skill and appreciative power. As he fails in these he falls below that higher law, standard by which he is himself to be tested, weighed and valued in the opinions of others.

The avenues to understanding opened to the farmer for the cultivation of the above faculties are very numerous. The eye is observing, the phenomena of nature is perhaps the most fertile source of knowledge and it is highly important to his success that the farmer should acquire a correct, farmer's eye—that is, one in conjunction with the mind, will practice in deciding quickly and correctly. No other occupation is so fertile in rare opportunities, for at the same time laboring, witnessing, enjoying and laboring as the farmers. No other is so dependent for success upon observation.

The farmer's course of study comprehends more of science than is at present covered by half a dozen parchment rolls. The incomprehensible soil he tends and tills—the implements and machines of culture,—the clouds and atmosphere over his head and waters at his feet, all are more or less studied by him with something of a knowledge of physiology, reproduction and hygiene

added. As a naturalist he deals with the insect world in a personal warfare involving loss from depleted pockets, blasted crops and blighted prospects. In all his investigations he is an interested actor feeling a pecuniary interest in the result.

Not his last fruitful source of knowledge is close observation of the labors of his fellow workers. His cheapest lessons are gained by watching the successes and failures of his neighbors, hence his eyes should be open that he may see, and be ever ready yankee like to inquire the how? when? and why?

Finally as the farmer judges his domestic animals giving to each its proper value for discovered excellences, so he is judged by his fellows accordingly as he is known and appreciated for usefulness. If he would be a valued citizen he must be a man of understanding—of correct deportment and upright action for there he is known estimated and measured by his fellows. Learn then—hear much—very much—and with all thy getting, get understanding.

W. H. GARDNER.

SUBLETT, Lee Co., Ill.

Strychnine Whisky.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:

Sobriety and health, are necessary to secure the personal energy of man, whether he be a farmer, a mechanic, or belongs to other professions. When you see a man of cadaverous countenance, ashy pale, and oftentimes bloated, restless, nervous, without personal energy, and losing his moral courage and perceptions, you may be sure he is addicted, either in secret or openly, to the use of ardent spirits, and a continuance of which, sooner or later, will take him down to the grave, a ruined man.

These are hard words, but they are true. The time was, when the writer was young (and he has now seen many years) drinking did not bring man to the end that it now does. He recollects, that when a boy, of hearing it said that such and such men, then aged, had drank all their lives, and were still hale men. It has occurred to him often since, that there must be some adequate reason why liquor affects persons now in a different way from what it did in former times. It must be so; and what is this cause?

Forty years ago, rye was worth seventy five cents a bushels in the towns on the Connecticut river. Much of it was bought up and manufactured into alcohol, and that alcohol by reduction and the addition of juniper berries, was made into gin, having a high proof. This gin was sold at some fifty cents per gallon at retail, and was drunk by many, without being followed by the effects of drinking modern whisky.

I again suggest, what is the cause of

the effect we witness in the use of modern whisky, drank liberally, and not even as temperate drinkers would say, in excess?

Is it not true that strychnine and other poisonous drugs, enable the distiller to obtain double the amount of alcohol from his grain that he could obtain without them? Men who have abandoned the business of distilling, say that this is so! Distillers cannot forego the advantages of using strychnine and other poisonous drugs to double their profits in distilling liquors. Their greed of gain is slaying thousands of fathers, husbands and sons.

I cannot add words to give more force to the facts here presented Drink and die—brothers, husbands and fathers!! Cast the poisonous glass from you and live—brothers, husbands and fathers,
AND LIVE!!

What we Want!

Editor of the Farmer:

A great deal of the land in this State needs underdraining. If underdrained we would always make crops. But farmers are not rich enough to underdrain their lands with tile, neither would the prices of produce justify such expense. We want some instruments of the character of the Mole Plow, invented and used in England thirty years ago, and patented two or three years ago in this country as an original invention; but we want that instrument so made that six, eight, or ten, yoke of oxen, can go ahead with it. The plan of working the present mole plow is expensive, slow and vexatious. If twelve or fourteen yoke of cattle were required to do the work, it would be a great improvement on the present system.

So necessary is underdraining in Illinois, and so important is it that this should be done at small expense, that I wish you would suggest to the State Agricultural Society, to offer a premium for the best Mole Plow that can be drawn by ten yoke of oxen, and which will make a good and sufficient drain, at a depth of two and a half feet from the surface of the ground. I. E.

Sugar Cane.

Editor of the Farmer:

The Chinese have made sugar and syrup from the Chinese Sugar Cane for a time beyond the memory of man. In the Islands adjacent, Loo Choo, for instance, the same cane or Sugar Millet has been used for the same purpose. Yet the making of these desirable articles is a delicate, particular business, and as our people have had to learn all the processes by experience, it is no wonder that mistakes have often been made. In the first place, our people followed the processes used in making syrup and sugar from the juice of the

maple. And they thought that eggs, milk, and blood, were necessary to success; and when the fact was otherwise proved, they still believed that lime or soda were required to neutralize the acid in the syrup.

A gentleman in Ohio who has for three years raised cane and worked the juice into syrup, has found by experience that the most simple process is the best as well as cheapest, and entirely effectual in making good syrup from Cane juice. He has practiced on the plan which we shall now give: He puts the juice of the cane immediately after it is expressed into his kettle, commences boiling, and boils rapidly until the proper syrup point is reached. He skims occasionally as the skum rises. Does not stand with skimmer in hand to skim all the time; but suffers the skum to collect on the surface of the juice in considerable amount. He boils very fast and the great ebullition and throws upon the surface all the peulent matter which, with slower boiling would remain at the bottom of the kettle, to the injury of the syrup.

Though he makes in this way a very good article of syrup at less than 20cens a gallon,—he hauls his syrup to Cincinnati, where it is refined for ten cents a gallon—making an article much superior to the best golden syrup, which he readily sells at eighty cents per gallon by the barrel.

Now here are new facts for the consideration of our farmers. Our informant says, that a single man with a boy can attend the grinding of the cane and making the syrup in the manner here described. The gentleman referred to (Mr. Bicker) made eighty barrels of syrup the last fall.

H.

Choice of Occupation.

Editor of the Farmer:

I beg leave to offer you a few thoughts on the subject suggested by the line at the head of this article. In my early days. I was a farmer's boy, I plowed, hoed, mowed some, chopped wood, gathered corn, and did a little of all the various kinds of farm work. I found, however, that farm life was not a pleasant life,—that there was too much hard work, and I envied the boys that had soft white hands and stood behind the counter. I pined for other enjoyment than farming—I was indulged by my parents—and at the close of near fifty years, I have learned much from experience.

That man who seeks to make a living by trade, enters upon a perilous life. If he is smarter than his neighbors,—if he is unscrupulous in means he adopts to make money;—he may make it, but not always. Though he may be sharp, others may be sharper; and if he hope

to make a living by doing an entirely fair business and obliging men in whom he has confidence, God help him! for he is on the road to ruin. If business men must scarcely have confidence in any body; he must bear about him the conviction that he is engaged in a bitter struggle for life, and that the community is made up of selfish individuals who would take the last copper from him, to benefit themselves.

Look at this thing as it is—and I ask if I have not stated facts? If this is so, you would probably inquire what would be my suggestions in this state of the case?

I answer, let farmers so educate their sons as that they will understand the happy position of the farmer. He can live mostly within his own resources.—He will not find it necessary often to exercise his wits against those whose business it is to overreach the unwary. He can depend on his own industry and the smiles of a good Providence. He can study his profession, which will furnish him with a vast and interesting field for investigation. He is away from the scenes of guilt, and folly and heartlessness which are spread out in our cities. He can look up to heaven and witness its wonders and abroad upon the earth and see the handiwork of Deity—and smiling say, "My Father made them all."

I am glad, Mr. Editor, that a sentiment is prevailing the minds of our country lads in favor of home and of the employment which was first given to man by his Maker. And this disposition has arisen from increased intelligence—from a better knowledge of the world, and a better knowledge of their own profession. I hope that disposition will increase.

Blessings on the common school system of our State. It is carrying knowledge where it is most needed. It is educating a race of farmers that will make their mark in a few years in Illinois.

ONE WHO HAS BEEN A SHOP KEEPER.

Evergreens for Screens.

MR. EDITOR:—Several recent writers have intimated in the columns of the Farmer, that if Evergreens for screens and beltings of fruit and house lots, stock yards, &c., could be had at reasonable prices, our farmers would go into it. Now, I do not know what would be claimed reasonable prices, surely Evergreens can never become in this country, as cheap as the Hedge Plants. For to acclimate on evergreen, from two to four years are required which always ought to be done, and must be done, before it can be made, in all seasons, at all reliable for such a purpose, costs more than it would to raise a hundred hedge plants. But Evergreens are now at least one hundred per cent. cheaper

in this State, than they could possibly be afforded for a few years ago, of the same quality—and I would now myself engage to furnish the evergreen plants, of the best kinds, and of good quality, thoroughly acclimated, at such rates that such screen hedges, or evergreen break-winds would not cost at the Nursery more than from one to two dollars per rod which is not the first cost of a plank fence, and I know, many others, and I presume all the Nursery men who deal in Evergreens would furnish them by the quantity at the same rate, and perhaps some of them cheaper.

I do not see, therefore, that there need be now any great delay, in some, at least commencing thus so desirable an improvement on their farms. Of course smaller and cheaper plants could be furnished at still less prices,—or the farmers might send on to the whole-sale dealers and purchase and grow and acclimate them for themselves; and in that case, the cost would be little aside from the labor and delay. The objection to this is, that so many of them would neglect to take proper care in acclimating them, and either kill them outright, or stunt them so that it would be years before they would make any good growth. But any way that any one can best contrive to get small beautiful and economical screens around his yards and his home, will pay him in the end for all his toil and care, and add more to the wealth and beauty of the state than any similar move that could be made.

Yours truly,

J. B. TURNER.

Japan Apple Pie Melon.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER—This melon, of which much is being said in the eastern agricultural papers is really valuable. We grew fine ones last summer from seeds procured in Georgia, where they were then selling at one dollar per dozen. It grows finely, and we have eaten pies of it, not to be distinguished from those of the GENUINE APPLE. It keeps late into the winter. We heartily indorse the following remarks of Mr. Lemuel Norris of Ohio, taken from the Country Gentleman, of February 3, '59. "The Apple Pie Melon attains to a large size. I have grown specimens the past season of from thirty to forty pounds each. They are cylindrical in shape; color, a golden tint; flesh close-grained; color of seeds blue. They prove perfectly hardy and easy of cultivation. I consider this melon a valuable acquisition. We have tested their quality for pies, and find them delicious."

We are receiving letters every mail for seeds of the above, which we are willing to fill for proper remuneration.

W. H. GARDNER,

Sublette, Lee co., Ill.

New Orchards.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:—I want to plant a new orchard, and I want some advice on the subject. I see you order trees from Illinois Nurseries, and perhaps you can tell me how to plant when I obtain them. M.

1. Select high and dry ground; plow it deep and well. If it is at all disposed to be wet, drain it. 2d. Get your trees at an Illinois Nursery; those trees that have low heads are the best. Avoid those that run up like a whip stock. Get few varieties and those of the best, the nurseryman will be likely to recommend such as suit best our climates and soils. 3d. Spring is generally the best time to transplant. 4th. Have your trees well prepared for planting. Remove with shoots as are not wanted for prominent limbs. Cut smoothly off all bruised or injured roots. Have the roots covered from winds and rain, and keep them moist. 5th. Dig the holes large; plant the trees no deeper than they grew in the nursery; throw the surface soil into the hole and among the roots first; see that the roots are all spread out; when the roots are well covered, tread down firmly and water thoroughly. If the weather should thereafter be dry, mulch with coarse manure or straw over the roots. 6th. Plant hoed crops in the young orchard, and cultivate well.—Never sow grass or grain in a young orchard.

Preserve this plan and you will be likely to secure a good orchard, if you give it the proper culture and attention to protect it from boarers, mice and rabbits.

Wheat Crop—Grow Wool.

EDITOR FARMER:

About a year ago you took ground in the Farmer that wheat, as a constant crop, was not a safe or profitable one in central Illinois. I was sorry to see you take that position, for I honestly believe I could always raise wheat here with care. Pretty much all my present crop is destroyed. I put it in tolerably well. But winter wheat is not to be relied on.—New broken land, as a general thing, will produce a crop and sometimes a great crop.

We must practice a good husbandry.—You recommend small farmers to make pork. I recommend them to grow wool. Wool is bound to keep up. The Australians are digging gold and neglecting their sheep. Our western farmers are gradually lessening their flocks. The great west is the place for sheep. They do well here; seldom subject to disease, and the food they consume is cheap.

I hope to see many of our farmers commence sheep raising the present season. There are capital stocks in the country from which they can purchase. The McConnell's and Hoppin's have thousands of French merinoes; C. W. Price, of Island Grove, has choice Cotswolds; T. C. Taylor near Williamsville, has a fine flock of South

downs. The two last are for mutton. The first for wool and mutton.

I hope our sorely tried farmers will try some other kind of husbandry than growing wheat. C.

A Good Native Cow.

GREENVILLE, Fed. 17, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR:—I inclose an account of a remarkable cow, as given the Secretary of the Massachusetts Society, for the promotion of Agriculture.

This cow was bought from a drove in Vermont, without a pedigree, and of course, ignobly born and bred.

Good milkers are not common in Illinois, and our farmers are not generally aware of the profit to be derived from them.

The most extraordinary fact in this case, is the richness of the milk. This quantity depends much upon the food given, yet there is no doubt but any other nutritious and suitable food might answer as well, as the kind selected by Mr. Wright.

The subject is well deserving the attention of our farmers, and the fact should be understood that many of the best milkers are of the native breed.

This subject of good milkers, has recently attracted the special attention of several individuals among that some body of enterprising and public spirited men who have already contributed so largely to the improvement of stock by valuable and judicious importations from Europe.

The example of the Vermont cow may induce our farmers to give more attention to good milkers that are sometimes found amongst our home bred stock.

Respectfully your friend,
WILLIAM S. WAIT.

From the Boston Courier.

Mr. Alexander Wright of Lowell made the following statement to the Secretary of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, in September, 1851, concerning a milch cow of his:

The native cow offered for premium was purchased from a drove in Vermont, when three years old. She is now nine. She calved early in January, 1850, and from the 10th of that month to the 20th of August, 1851, she gave 9,027 quarts of milk, weighing 2 lbs. per quart. The greatest quantity given per day was in June, 1850, viz: 21 quarts and 1 gill.

Her next calf was dropped on the 12th of September, 1851, and it was not without considerable effort that she was "dried off" on the 20th of August previous. Her milk was very rich in cream, producing one pound of butter from seven quarts of milk. During summer and winter while in milk, she was fed morning and evening as follows:—One quart of Indian meal, one quart of shorts, with one gill of malt put into a pail and boiling water poured on until the pail was nearly filled, the contents being well stirred and then covered with a thick cloth and left

till the the next meal to cool. In winter she had a peck of carrots at noon in addition to the above.

For the quantity of milk given each month see the following record:

Month	Days	Quarts per day	Quarts
January, 1850,	20	15	300
February, "	28	16	448
March, "	31	17	527
April, "	30	17	510
May, "	31	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	620
June, "	30	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	650
July, "	31	21	651
August, "	31	20	620
September, "	30	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	555
October, "	31	17	527
November, "	30	16	480
December, "	31	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	449
January, 1851,	31	14	434
February, "	28	14	392
March, "	31	13	403
April, "	30	12	360
May, "	31	12	372
June, "	30	13	390
July, "	31	9	279
August, "	20	4	80

583

Total, for the whole time, 9,027

This is an average of nearly 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ quarts per day during the whole period of about 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ months.

From January 10, 1850, to January 10, 1851, she gave 6,471 quarts of milk, being an average for one year of over 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ quarts per day. Allowing that 7 quarts of her milk produced a pound of butter, the whole quantity would have made 1,289 4-7 lbs. of butter; and at the same rate, for one year, 294 3-7 lbs.; a week, 17 5-7 lbs.; and over 2 3-7 lbs. per day, for 365 successive days; being on an average of about 75 cents per day, allowing it to have been sold for 30 cts. a pound, or \$5 25 per week, or \$2 73 for one year. The skimmed milk of one year at 3 cents a quart would have sold for \$194, which added to \$273, the value of the butter, would have amounted to \$467.13 for one year.—What yields a better profit than a good milch cow?

So much for the history of one "native cow," a record worthy of the notice of every man who keeps a cow.

Will any reader of this statement furnish the readers of the Courier with a better one from any of the old races or fancy breeds of cows? If so, it will afford us great pleasure to give it to the public. Such extraordinary facts show what has been done—for a fact is something done—and, it is a trite adage, "That which has been done may be done again." And moreover if a "despised native" produces such a record, what may not a cow of one of the improved breeds do? Let us hear from the other side.

From the American Stock Journal.

All About Hogs.

Hogs. The high price of pork, and its universal use, makes hogs a subject of interest now, in the United States.

BREEDS. The best of the large breeds is thought here, to be the Berkshire. Among the small breeds, the Suffolk, the Essex, and the Spanish are the favorites. I have tried all these but the Essex, of which I have the promise of a fine pair now for an experiment. My objection to the Berkshire is that they are too large for family use. The Suffolk has too little hair for this climate, and our method of treating them. The Spanish hog which I now breed purely, is the best hog I have tried. They weigh over three hundred pounds gross, at maturity,—are covered well with long, curly, red hair, few or no bristles, very deep bodied, thrifty, and fatten

well at all ages. The bacon is very juicy and superior. They are a pure breed, and prevail in Portugal, Spain and Mexico, where I have seen very fine specimens. I sell numbers of them, north, south and west.

BREEDING. The sow goes with young about one hundred and fourteen days.—Some breeders insist on their being twelve or fifteen months old before being put to breeding, but I am of the opinion that six or ten months old will do well where they are forced by high feeding, and not allowed to run down in flesh whilst suckling. And therein lies the great evil of early breeding; the foetus takes so much of the nourishment of the food that the general development is injured permanently, or greatly retarded.—While with young they should be allowed exercise freely. As the time of bearing approaches, they should be put in separate lots, of one, or not more than two together. The bed should be covered against rain, with thatch, or boards, and made of forest leaves, or short hay or straw, but so light as not to impede the locomotion of the young pigs; for if they do not move nimbly about, the sows will overlay them. For the first day the sow should not be disturbed, not even to feed her, nor should they be removed from the place of birth till the pigs begin to follow her about, otherwise they will return to their original beds, and there be starved. As soon as the pigs begin to follow, and seek food, as many as ten or twenty sows may be put together, provided the weather is not cold enough to cause them to "pile up."—Now rail pens should be made with holes for the pigs, but excluding the sows, where corn, rye, wheat, milk, or other food should always be "kept by" them. If pigs are of different sizes, there should be several pens with holes to suit the several sizes, else the large ones will drive off the small ones from the food.

WEANING AND SPAYING. At two or three months old the pigs should be weaned. If the sows are to be fed for pork, instead of the barbarous method of spaying, with sharp sheap-shears, cut off the extreme points of all the teats, when they will at once dry up. If the sows are removed to a distant place, one should be allowed to remain, to herd the pigs, which should be called once or twice a day throughout the year, and fed a little, to keep them perfectly gentle. The best method here is to let April pigs go to the boar in January, have pigs in April, and then go to the butcher the same fall,—that is now my practice—except with my thorough-bred hogs, the old ones of which I cannot afford to go to pork. By this means there is great economy, as you never winter an old hog.—One month before killing they should be turned to the boar, as they fatten better, and are not injured.

WINTERING. The best place to winter hogs is in thick woodlands, among the leaves, where if not more than twenty or thirty together, of even size, they require no further care. If of unequal size they should be separated and assorted according to size, else the large ones will overlay and weaken, or kill the small ones. If there are no woods you must surely have—

HOG-HOUSES. My method of making hog-houses is thus:—Make any number of rail pens, according to the number of hogs,

in a row adjoining each other, and cover them well with clapboards, then pile turf round the sides to keep off the winds, and keep the water from entering. Leave a hole for the hogs to enter. This is a most admirable house for hogs, and can be easily removed to other lots. Another method is to place your corn, or rye, or wheat straw stacks against the north side of the fence—then cover the fence with poles and refuse straw or fodder, so as to turn the rain-water off. This makes a very good shelter for hogs, but I prefer my own plan.

FATTENING. Hogs at all times should have a water-tight trough, filled with wood-ashes and salt in equal mixture. In twenty years I have never lost twenty hogs by disease, sometimes having fattened hundreds a year for drovers. But when the hogs are put up in a close pen to fatten, they require especial care in reference to their health. In the spring they should be put upon red clover, and if convenient, have a little grain fed them once a day. From the clover let them go to early oats, or wheat, or rye, in the field, then give them old corn in the pen until the new is hard, as you save much by not feeding the corn till it is perfectly matured. Corn should not be fed down in the field, unless water is very convenient, and then a few acres only should be accessible at a time, to prevent them from breaking down more corn than they will eat, before it sours. It is a great advantage, however, to have the manure from the hogs thus fed, and those who have tried it a succession of years highly approve the method, as it is alleged that corn may be thus raised for an unlimited number of years without grass crop or manuring. When the hogs are penned, it should be on good firm ground, the corn should be scattered, and fed as often a day as convenient, as the object is to "stuff" the hogs as much as possible. I am greatly in favor, therefore, of pumpkins in hog-feeding for variety. Boiled potatoes, ripe apples, and any refuse of wheat, oats, &c., are good to keep up the hog's appetite. In addition to the salt and ashes, every hog should have during the time of pen-feeding about one-half bushel of rotten wood or charcoal, or scoriae from the blacksmith's shop. This is absolutely necessary to their good condition and health, as they are correctives to the accumulation of acid, which comes of much grain and close feeding. The amount of charcoal which hogs will eat will astonish the novice; and they eat it as regularly as the corn. The use of charcoal is a discovery of my own.

KILLING. When hogs are to be killed they are rarely all fat. The fat ones should be carefully driven out from the rest, and killed at a different place, as the alarm and excitement gives the remaining hogs a great back-set. The best method of killing here where wood is plenty, is to sink a wooden trough partly in the ground, and lay down by it a platform of flat rails or plank, large enough to hold four or six hogs,—build a log pile and put upon it lime stones enough to heat the water. The trough should be long enough to allow the stones to lie at both ends, and still leave space enough in the middle for the hog to be scalded. By putting in an additional stone occasionally,

the water can be kept all day at the proper temperature. The hogs should be caught and knocked in the head with a stone-hammer, and then well bled with the knife.—When scalded and cleaned, hung on a pole, and well washed down before and after gutting, and when well cooled of the animal heat, neatly cut up.

BACONING. Baconing hogs is a great art, but little understood. If a bird or fish is salted, a few days it is unfit to eat; they should be salted just before cooking; and before the juice can escape, prepared for eating. The reason is, salt unites readily with water; it not only lays hold upon the juices of the meat, but absorbs moisture from the air, and thus runs off all the most delicious essences from the bird and the fish. The great secret therefore, is to salt pork for bacon lightly and in the light. Salt lightly the first day—then overhaul and salt the second day; then salt again rather more heavily the fourth day, then let the meat lie a month, and then hang it. The brine must be allowed to pass off from the meat. The object is to allow the meat to take just salt enough to preserve it, without extracting the juices. Light is a great agent in curing meat.

HAMS. Hams should be made of a hog weighing about two hundred pounds, nett, well fattened. The shanks should be cut off rather closely; and all the fat, not mixed with lean, well trimmed off, as that makes good lard, and very poor bacon. To one bushel of fine pure salt, put one table-spoonful of saltpetre, two table-spoonsful of finely powdered red pepper, a few spoonsful of sugar, and as many of good hickory ashes, and then salt as directed. Smoke with sound hickory wood, in cool, dry weather, and then you will never want to eat a "sugar-cured ham" again.

HEALTH. A foolish idea prevails that hog-meat is unhealthy. Experience in the army and navy, and the mercantile service, prove that no meat is more healthy than salt pork or bacon. The reason why people are sick from eating pork is, because they eat too much at once. Pork is highly nutritious, and too much is easily and too often eaten. In hot enervating climates much meat of any kind is unhealthy; ~~much~~ among the least so, because the least concentrated. The Americans eat too much meat of all kinds. I rejoice to see fruit, milk, and nuts coming more and more into fashion. I think a small slice of ham with lettuce, "greens," turnips, beans, &c., &c., will never give one the "scrofula," nor "tape-worm!" nor necessary "damnation!"

C. M. CLAY.

WHITE HALL, KY., Latitude 38° }
December, 1858. }

OUR NATIONAL STAR.—The act of Congress establishing the form and character of our National Flag, passed April 4, 1818, declares that on the admission of every new State into the American Union, one star shall be added to the clustre already grouped upon the "Union" of the flag, and that such addition shall take place on the 4th of July next succeeding such admission. Let our flag makers take notice. Thir y-three stars must adorn the National Banner from and after the 4th of July next Till then thirty-two.

Cheap Postage on Seeds, Scions, &c. an Element of Productive Progress.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER.—One element of productive progress which seems to have been overlooked, among the many efforts hitherto made by our nation, to facilitate the increase of our resources, and also practically to push it forward by important measures, prominent among which is the Patent Office System, and its collection and free diffusion of seeds, scions and small plants, which might pass through the mail from one place to another, in that manner facilitating the introduction and diffusion of plants important to the development of the country, and be of great benefit, while the post office department would receive no injury from the measure, but a positive benefit, as quite or almost a new department of postal matter would thereby created, which would add much to the means of that department. Horticulturists and farmers, as well as the press, have often suggested the importance of this matter; but it does not appear to have yet received the attention which it deserves. Perhaps it would be well if Congress would attend to the matter soon, as it seems to be giving its attention to postal matters now.

SAMUEL JACOB WALLACE.

A Suggestion.

The consumption of Rhubarb stalks for pies and puddings, is fast increasing. Families who rent houses and live in towns, and have even a small yard, can enjoy this luxury. Take a barrel, remove one head, put into it some wet ashes with earth, take four or five good rhubarb roots and plant in the same. Set the barrel in a warm place—water the plants well, (the bottom of the barrel should not be tight,) and you can raise good stalks, and by constantly enriching the earth, you can have them early in the season, and they will continue to grow until fall. Then put the roots into the ground to rest, and take them up next spring to renew this process.

These suggestions are from the *Centralia Press*, and we have no doubt will be found good in practice.

EDITOR FARMER.—What kind of white beans is most profitable to raise, market and crop considered? M.

[The small white bean, if perfect, meets with ready sale; but it requires a favorable season to get a fine article. The white navy bean produces well, is a handsome bean, and sells well. The white cranberry makes better eating, but your ground must not be very rich, and must be very clean.]

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, MARCH 1, 1859.

ERRATA.—In the last farmer is many typographical errors. You make me say that I put in less than one table spoonful of milk of lime before the frost, and more than one after the frost. The words "to the gallon," is left out. Again—you make me say, "I am an adept in sugar making," whereas I said "I am *not* an adept," &c. You make me say that my boilers were made of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plank, whereas I said $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch plank. These mistakes are of some importance and should be corrected.

R. KIMBALL.

State Agricultural Society.

The Executive Committee of this Society met in this city on the 22d ult., and continued in session three days. They fixed upon Freeport, for the next State Fair; and decided to offer premiums for a steam engine, which could be used advantageously for plowing, and all other work of the farm. The premium is divided into first and second—three thousand dollars for the first, and two thousand for the second.

The premium list will be ready for the press in a few days. The premiums offered this year amount to fifteen thousand dollars. Every effort will be made to make the fair at Freeport a great success. The fixtures will occupy thirty acres of ground, and are designed to be made sufficiently extensively to cover all stock and all articles which may be exhibited.

Morrill's Land Bill.

This bill finally passed both Houses of Congress, but has been vetoed by the President. We deeply regret to announce this fact. We looked to the results which would be accomplished by that bill, if framed into a law, with the highest satisfaction. Every State would have had a Farmer's College. Farmers sons would enjoy the benefits of an educational institution, where they could learn just what would qualify them for their duties in life. The farmers and other industrial classes of the United States will be grievously disappointed at this act of the President. Shall they yield their claims to a portion of the public lands on account of this defeat?

THE TEA PLANT.—The Patent Office is experimenting on the cultivation of the tea plant. Was not that pretty effectually done by Julius Smith in South Carolina some years ago? Mr. Smith found that the plants grew well, but that labor was too high to make the cultivation profitable.


"Nansemond Sweet Potatoes"

We ask the attention of the lovers of this most excellent vegetable, to the advertisement of Messrs. Ten Brook and Allen, under this head, in this paper. Undoubtedly the Early Nansemond Sweet Potatoe is the best variety which can be had for the north. It comes early, produces well, is fair, yellow, very sweet and hardy. Those who have tried the yellow Nansemond here, will not give it up for any other. When sweet potatoes like these, grown in the north, and of excellent quality can be had, what miserable policy to import, and plant sweet potatoes that come from New Orleans or points down the Mississippi? This was done last year, by farmers in this section to some extent, and an article was produced by their trial which bore no comparison in value to the Early Nansemond.

The gentleman interested in the sale of the Nansemond Sweet Potatoes, will promptly respond to all orders.

Currency for Taxes.


A bill to authorize the collectors of this State to take the paper of our State banks for taxes has been introduced into the House. We apprehend that it will be rejected; and yet we do not see any sufficient reason that it should be. Our State has authorized the establishment of banks. They are furnishing the people with means to do business. The paper is readily taken every where, except in the payment of taxes. It appears to be good enough for the people, but not good enough for the tax collector. This appears to us to be as wrong, as it certainly is inconvenient to the people. The State should be required to take its own paper, and if anybody is to lose on the transaction, it should be the party that authorizes the issue of the paper. The theory of our government is, that it is established for the benefit of the people. We are quite willing that the theory should be carried out in regard to the money to be paid for taxes.

 There is a periodical published in Cincinnati, we think, which is well designed for the patronage of dentists. It is a good work, as we should judge. One article seems to show that the offers of premiums by agricultural and other societies for articles of dentistry, is entirely useless, so far as improvement in

these articles is concerned. A good mechanic can make a good exhibition, for instance, of a set of teeth, which would be of no value if put to use. Those who make these exhibitions will be found to be pedants—pretenders, who seek in this unprofessional way to secure business. The argument seems to be entirely conclusive.

TIMBER PLANTING.—The best season of the year for planting acorns of every kind of oak, and also chesnuts, walnuts, hickory nuts, &c., is immediately after they fall from the trees. When kept dry long, they lose their vegetating principle. But by sowing them at their proper season there is danger of their being destroyed by mice, squirrels and moles; and if persons prefer the spring season for planting, they can be preserved in boxes of damp sand till early spring. As most of the plants have tap roots, they had better be planted where you design to have them stand. Some, however, may prefer to have them grow two years in their gardens, and afterward plant them out. Experienced gardeners say that the tap roots can easily be put off with a sharp spade, running under the tree, which will cause the tree to throw out lateral roots. The nut-bearing trees produce much better when subjected to this treatment.

BLOOMINGTON NURSERY.—We have received F. K. Phoenix's catalogue for this nursery. It contains a list of a great variety of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubbery, green house plants, &c. &c., and very many valuable remarks on the cultivation of orchards, shrubs and plants. The nurseries of this State are abundantly able to supply all the demands which can be made upon them. We venture to say that if cultivators will carry out the suggestions of Mr. Phoenix in the cultivation of their orchards, gardens and lawns, they will be well rewarded for all their outlays.

 The Legislature passed a resolution at the heel of the session, authorizing the printing of 3,000 copies of the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society for 1857 and 1858.

HONEY BLADE GRASS.—We still see advertisements in the papers, designed to dupe our farmers with this bald imposture. The Honey Blade Grass is our Hungarian Millet.

What is to be Done!

Another spring is about to return and many farmers indebted to merchants for goods which they have used in their families, are unable to pay for them; merchants are crowding farmers, and merchants are being crowded by those of whom they have purchased goods.—What would we counsel?

We would counsel forbearance where it is possible; but if the merchant is pressed, what can he do, but press his customers? Every way possible should be used to raise money and pay as far as you can; and countrymen should not fall upon that unfair and injurious practice too often seen, to avoid these merchants to whom they are indebted and take what ready money they can raise and go to other stores to purchase goods for cash. This is a grievous wrong—'tis a moral wrong—and we do not see how a conscientious man can practice it. Then buy what you must buy of those you owe, and pay them all the money you can.

And we further say to our friends, make every turn you can honestly to save a penny. If necessary wear your old clothes, patch them, make them last; cut off your bill of groceries as much as you can;—live, as far as possible, on the productions of your farm. Dean Swift naively said—"To-day it made no difference with him whether he dined on meal or venison yesterday." The productions of our farms will furnish good and healthful food,—the industrious housewife can double the term of time for the wearing of clothing; she can also furnish the best food from the farm, and needs a little of the condiments found at stores to make it more desirable or healthful. This system rigidly followed for a time, with the coming good crops—and we trust our friends will do all that in these days to make good crops will bring themselves and the country out of the present difficulties.

We are talking plain facts to our countrymen. Let them weigh them; and if they are just and true, practice them; if they are wrong, disregard them.

Gold at Pike's Peak.

These accounts are increasing as the spring approaches, and we should not be surprised, if, some months hence, we should learn that many of the glowing accounts we receive in the papers were got up by interested persons either in the towns on the route, or at the mines, who have goods to sell, and who wish to inveigle large numbers of emigrants to

Pike's Peak. Some letters we have lately seen, and statements given in newspapers, impress us seriously that these surmises will be found to be facts. We therefore suggest caution. If there is gold there stretching through an extent of 700 miles, it will not be exhausted next season, and there are enough people there at present to make a thorough trial of the value of the placers. Many young men will go there investing there all, and return much poorer than when they left their homes. We are not yet satisfied that the gold placers near Pike's Peak, will pay for washing.

"The Advisory Congress."

Some weeks ago there was a collection of gentlemen engaged in agriculture for horticulture, congregated at Washington from the different States, selected and undefined purposes by the head of the Patent Office, and paid out of the government funds. They met, as we understand, and there was submitted to them some thousand or so questions, and subsequently they adjourned. What was done, no outsider seems to know as yet. The veil of mystery thrown over this matter, we think will be withdrawn in due time.

Potatoe Culture—The One-Eye System.

The plan of raising potatoes on the "one-eye system," is briefly this: Cut the potatoe in small pieces, leaving one eye on a piece. Plant in drills, dropping them from six to ten inches apart. Plow and dress them as you would other potatoes.

This plan has been very successful. The crops yielded well, better than where the old system was pursued in parallel rows. The potatoes were all large and fine. A farmer of New York says, in the Country Gentleman, that with this culture, "he harvested more potatoes, and of a uniform size, than he had ever done before on the same amount of ground." A Massachusetts farmer says, that "he did not expect much from his potatoes, thus planted; but he was greatly disappointed. You should have seen them roll out—great big fellows, many of them the size of a man's double fist."

We would like to secure a trial of this system in Illinois.

LICE ON STOCK.—If your stock are troubled with lice, now is the time to kill the pest. The Homestead says: "Use the card and currycomb; to sheep apply angustum mixed on and back of the ears, where they cannot possibly rub it off. If your fowls are troubled with lice, mix sulphur with wood ashes for them to roll in."

Protection for Out Lots.

Persons in cities find it inconvenient to purchase and improve out-lots. Those usually enclose some five acres of ground. On these out-lots can be grown all the fruit necessary to furnish a family all the garden crops, grass, corn and many other articles—making the out-lots a highly cultivated farm in miniature. Owners of such lots are often annoyed by depredations, suffering great loss and vexation. Now such lots can be surrounded with hedges of the Osage Orange, and be made perfectly secure from intruders. They can be done in three and four years from the planting of the hedge, and at a moderate cost.

SEEDLINGS.—Here is a most interesting field for our young farmers and amateur cultivators. There is a charm in a new flower or a new variety of fruit. Our most beautiful modern flowers are the production of hybridization, and are choice seedlings. Our best roses are new creations by the same means. And we may say the same thing of many of our best varieties of apples, pears and peaches. And all these are chance seedlings. How should we then rear with care the seedling plants and shrubs and trees that come up around in our gardens and grounds? True we may be disappointed in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred in our hopes of obtaining an improved flower, shrub or fruit; but we obtain a variety that will be of value to the world. How much this country would have lost, had Mrs. Peak neglected to rear the little grape plant which has proved to be such an acquisition—the Rebecca Grape?

TO DELAY FLOWERS.—Have you a cherry, apricot or peach tree from which you have a strong desire to obtain fruit? This can be often done by delaying the flowers; and this can be effected by covering the ground under the tree when it is severely frozen, by a heavy coating of wheat straw, and covering that straw with plank, so that rains cannot reach it. Let this covering remain until danger from frost has past. The tree will then flower, and will be likely to obtain fruit.

WHAT IS A FARMER?—The Homestead answers this question. The farmer is the man who *manages* the farm. He is the one who does the *thinking* and *planning*. There is great pleasure in thinking, reasoning, planning, and having all things come round right. There are a great many farmers in the world who are only laborers on their own farms. Boys! don't grow up to belong to this class, but read and think.

"A Great Corn Year."

"This will be the greatest corn year ever seen in Illinois," said a farmer to us a few days ago. "And why?" "Because every farmer I see expresses that opinion, and his determination to raise all he possibly can himself." "But can you grow corn if the season is as bad as the last?" "We'll try. We could have raised more than we did last year, if we had worked with more energy. Why, I know farmers who didn't plant their ground till near July, and raised good corn—far better than the average of corn the year previous."

We like to hear this talk. If every farmer feels right and works right, there will be a wonderful crop of corn the coming season.

"Where are the pigs and other stock to eat it?"

"HO! FOR PIKE'S PEAK!"—We understand that in some of our neighboring towns, among those who will emigrate to Pike's Peak, the coming spring, there are some persons who design to turn their attention to farming. These farmers, of course, wish to make farms productive at once. They can grow but little the first year, if prairie is broken up in the ordinary manner. But prairie can be so broken up this spring, as to make it equal and even superior for production to old land! This can be done by using the double Michigan plow. This plow will cut eight and ten inches deep. The first plow will cut off two inches, or more, depth of the turf, lay it in the bottom of the furrow, and the other plow will cover it so deep that it will give no further trouble, and cover it with well pulverized earth, so that crops of corn, potatoes, or anything else grown in rich soil, will succeed just as well or better than on old land. This plow is no experiment. Thousands have used it, and all will concur in these facts. We therefore say to those who intend to make gold by farming at Pike's Peak, that you cannot dispense with the Michigan double plow.

A Talk about Fruit Trees.

"Well, Mr. B——, I want to sell you some fruit trees, pear trees, peach trees, cherry trees, apricot trees, gooseberries, currants, blackberries, roses, flowering shrubs, ornamental trees, ornamental shrubs"

"For heaven's sake stop. I have bought of you before, and I would just like to have you see my trees. They are not more than half a mile off, and you know I bought of you two hundred apple trees, which you told me were in fine order, and would bear fruit enough in three years to pay for themselves and

all the expenses of planting and taking care of them. Come! I'm glad to see you! come, let us go and look at the trees!"

"I have n't a great deal of time to spare just now. But can't I sell you some trees? I can let you have the best you ever saw. Green and fine, and sorts that sell at double price in New York."

"Come! come! Never mind talking about your present stock of trees. Let us go and see my new orchard, and then we'll speak about buying more trees."

"I have n't time now; but will call again!"

"If you do call again, I will not let you off as I have this time!" [Tree pedlar moves off.]

HEDGE GROWERS MANUAL.—"A treatise on the theory and utility of Live Fencing; its necessity and particular adaptation to the prairies of the West, comprising the thorough directions and all the latest improvements in the cultivation, completion and after treatment of the Hedge. By C. R. Overman, of Bloomington, President of the Illinois State Horticultural Society. Third edition, revised and enlarged. Springfield: Lanphier & Conner, printers, 1858."

We have examined this work, and find that the contents fully sustain the statements in the title page of the work, above quoted. That farmer who has this publication need go no farther for information in regard to the history of the Osage Orange plant, and of the necessary attention to make of the plant a perfect hedge, entirely sufficient to answer all the purposes of a good fence.

PEAS.—Many farmers are deterred from raising peas, because they suppose they must always be "bushed." This is not necessary. All varieties are sown in England broadcast. They should be plowed in. They produce well thus cultivated; but no doubt the yield would be larger if bushes were planted for the peas to run on.

HARDY PERPETUAL ROSES.—People will be disappointed in these roses unless they give them thorough cultivation. They require the richest soil, and as soon as the first bloom is over, they should be cut back to two or three buds to insure late flowering. Madam Laffay is an exception to this rule, but that will do better to be cut back after its June flowers have fallen.

DOES DRAINING PAY.—An enterprising gardener about a year ago purchased five acres of land near this city at \$200 an acre. It was immediately under-drained; and last season he raised crops of vegetables upon the land sufficient to pay for it. Does draining pay?

From an Inquiring Lad.

MR. EDITOR: For two years we have failed in some of our leading crops. I am told that it did not use to be so. I have heard our neighbors, who have been farmers for a great many years, say that until within some few years past, (except the noted year of the of the deep snow,) they always made good crops, and that they took no more pains in making crops, than they do now. I do not understand why this is so. I wish I did. I have talked about it and thought about it a good deal, and I cannot satisfy myself any other way, than to suppose the seasons have changed and that these changes are against the success of our common modes of farming. Now, what do you think on this subject? Am I right? If I am right, we must improve our farming if we expect to get good crops. I am young, have read some in the agricultural papers, but yet do not know what is best to be done. I want to be a progressive farmer—that is, I want to improve as a farmer, for I know no other business.

JAMES H.

We hope that some of our farmers will be kind enough to reply to this young man. It does seem strange that this country, which was formerly so prolific in crops, should now fail in producing good crops so often. The fact is, nevertheless, so. We may probably charge the misfortunes to the seasons. Certainly our fields are as rich as they ever were. But we can greatly improve production. To do it, we must cultivate well. We must drain our lands so that water will not destroy our crops. We are now cultivating what used to be considered wet lands. To make them produce well, we repeat, they must be drained. If we were to be called on for our opinion what is best to be done to insure good crops, we should say, plow deep, cultivate well and drain your land. If the question should be repeated, we should still answer, plow deep, cultivate well and drain your land. Thousands of acres of wheat will be lost in this country the present season, because the wheat was not put in well and the land not drained. Thousands of acres of land in Sangamon county, were not planted last year in corn, because the land was not drained. We tell our young friend, that if he will drain his land so that the water can run off, and will cultivate well, forty-nine times out of fifty, he can make good crops. This word "DRAIN" should never be forgotten by a farmer who wishes to make good crops and carry on profitable farming.

EDITOR FARMER:—Is there any way to grow field peas so that they shall be free from bugs?


M.

[It is said that if they are planted or sown late, the bug will not trouble them. Of this, however, we are not certain. If sown or planted late, they must be covered with at least five inches of earth.]

Eastern Emigration.

The signs are that there will be a large emigration from the east the ensuing spring, summer and fall. We see it so stated in the eastern papers. The majority are coming out to buy farms. The impression is at the east, that they can obtain such at much less price than has been known for years. Let them come. It will be a benefit to a large class of our farmers to dispose of portions of their farms, and give more attention to that which shall remain afterward. There are fine opportunities in our cities to purchase property. A good crop this year will change the aspect of affairs in the west.


VENTILATION.—What would be thought if we were to introduce into our stomachs half putrid meats and half putrid vegetables and fruits? The stomach lives on food—the lungs on air. Do we consider the importance of providing the lungs with pure air? Are we not constantly imbibing in our close rooms the tainted breaths which come from diseased lungs, fetid breath caused by tobacco, whisky, and other nuisances? Is it a wonder that woman, often compelled by necessity to set in close, hot, ill-ventilated rooms, becomes a victim to bad air, and lingers her life out in consumption?

 Downing says—"As an ornamental object, we consider the oak, the most varied in expression, the most beautiful, grand, majestic and picturesque of all deciduous trees." This is even so. But these trees are transplanted into our grounds with great difficulty. To have them where you desire, plant the acorns. These are sure to germinate and in a few years you will have handsome trees. A grove of noble oaks is one of the most admirable objects to be seen in the vegetable world.


WOOL.—Eastern buyers are already in our markets trying to engage the next clip of wool. We hope our wool growers will not sell their wool while it is on the backs of their sheep.

This year wool will pay,
If not fool'd away.

OATS.—There are two points to be aimed at by farmers who desire to raise good crops of oats. The first is that the ground shall be in good order, well plowed and well pulverized, and the second is that the seed shall be sown early.

 Mr. Fawkes, dissatisfied with his first steam engine, is building another at Philadelphia. It is to be of greater capacity and power than that he exhibited in Illinois. The plows are to be made by Derre & Co., Moline. He states that he has the offer of breaking 5,000 acres of land in Illinois at paying prices. He thinks that he can draw any of the mole ditchers with his new machines.

STRIPED BUGS.—These are destructive insects among vines. Jas. Weed says in the Country Gentleman, that if gardeners will go into their gardens about sunrise and pick up these insects and pinch them sufficiently, and follow the plan up, they will soon rid the vines of them. It is some benefit to plant pumpkins for food for the bugs, near cucumber hills, as they prefer the thick leaf of the pumpkins to the thin leaf of the cucumber. When the bugs leave, the bugs pumpkin vines be destroyed.

 Wheat is bound to advance. The crop was short last year. Iowa is already importing wheat. The northern part of this State is bare of wheat, and (this fact is of some importance) a great portion of our winter wheat is already killed. Many farmers, if they design to furnish themselves with bread from their own farms must sow spring wheat.

HARVESTERS 1600 YEARS AGO!—In Palladon's "Fourteen Books on Agriculture," he says that in Gaul they had a summary method of doing harvesting work. A machine was drawn by an ox, which picked off the head of the wheat very much as the machine does which now gathers the heads of clover. It was raised and lowered by the driver, who followed the machine.

EARLY CORN.—Many varieties of early corn were planted in this section of Illinois last season. The public are interested in knowing how this corn succeeded here. We should be glad to receive information upon this point. A good, productive, early corn, for early feeding, and for late planting, (if corn cannot be planted early,) must be invaluable to our farmers.

SPRING WHEAT.—There will be a demand for spring wheat for seed. Those who have more than they expect to sow, should clean what they have to spare, and take it to the seed stores.

Horticultural Society of Southern Illinois.

On the 1st instant, there was a meeting of fruit growers and others interested, at Centralia. This meeting organized the "Pomological and Historical Society of Southern Illinois."

The officers elected were:

B. G. ROOTS, of Perry co., President.

N. D. INGRAHAM, of Marion county, Corresponding Secretary.

J. M. HUNTER of Washington county, Recording Secretary.

J. P. REYNOLDS, of Marion county, Treasurer.


W. S. WAIT, of Bond county, Uriel Mills, of Marion, W. S. Bainbridge, of Union, Wright Casey, of Jersey, Wm. Yates of Perry.

STOCK HOGS.—Our farmers should save as many stock hogs as possible. The present year, if the season is at all favorable, a great breadth of land will be planted in corn, and we shall want consumers near our own cribs.

EDITOR FARMER:—Can matured seed of the Chinese sugar be had in Springfield? Last year our crop did not mature to seed, although the cane made fine syrup.


P. ALLEN,
Allen's Grove, Wis.

[Good seed can be had at \$1.50 per bushel.]

 The bill introduced into the Senate of this State, authorizing the State Agricultural Society to offer a premium of \$5,000, for a successful steam plow, which shall be practical and useful, has been laid on the table of the Senate.

A NEW CORN PLANTER.—Robert Dillon of Mason county, has invented a new corn-planter. It is a very simple instrument. It is drawn by one horse and drops a single row. One man plants with this machine. Cost fifteen dollars.

SUGAR CANE CONVENTION.—There is to be sugar cane convention at Waverly, Iowa, on the 3d day of March. The object is to spread before the people all the facts that can be gleaned in regard to the cultivation of cane and the manufacture of the juice into syrup and molasses.

 It is said a steam plow, on new principles, is about completed at Canon Falls, Minnesota.

List of Shrubbery, &c.

We present the list of shrubbery, &c., prepared in our last number, for Gardens and Lawns on a small scale, and add other articles on the suggestion of an esteemed friend. The object of this list is to enable persons of small means to purchase such articles of shrubbery and such at reasonable prices.

Two Balsam Firs, Norway Spruce or Black Spruce trees—say 50 cents each.....	\$1 00
Two Persian Lilacs, white and purple, at 20.....	40
One Snowball, at 25c.....	25
One Tamarix, at 25c.....	25
One sweet scented Seringa, 25c.....	25
Three Spiras, Prunifolia, Douglassi and Sorbifolia, at 20c.....	60
Wegelia Rosea, at 25c.....	25
One Japan Quince, at 30c.....	30
One Belgian Honeyuckle at 25c—running.....	35
One Chinese " " 25c—running.....	25
Two hardy perpetual roses, Dutchess of Southerland and Madam Laffay, 50c each.....	1 00
	\$4.80

We add, as before stated, on the suggestion of our friend, the following Bulbous Plants:

One dozen Hyacinths.....	\$ 75
Tulips.....	1.00
Crocus.....	50
Tiger Lillies.....	50
Jonquil.....	50
Dietrytu Spectabilis herbaceous.....	25
[These can be rapidly propagated]	
Shrubs—Althea, white double.....	25
" " blue ".....	25
Half dozen kinds June Roses.....	1.00
	\$5 00

Double Hollyhocks, (which will cost nothing more than for the seed,) are very beautiful if trimmed, (that is, the tops pinched off, so as not to grow higher than three feet) planted about in the fence corners.

Our correspondent says:

"I cannot bear to think of those two evergreens you properly recommended, without also thinking of a ring of fine tulips to come up around them and contrast with their green shade. Then after these another ring of red gladiolus, &c. Then, perhaps, some coxcombs or other red flowers later, all of which, by culture, help grow and set off the evergreens to advantage. I do think a yard without roses, tulips and trimmed double hollies in the country, is unpardonable. I know they are common, and so are fools common, who want to go to Asia, Mexico or Japan for unknown, trouble some and tender plants, not half as beautiful."

The lists there given, can be greatly extended, and perhaps purchasers would like to substitute some of the following articles for those previously named:

Herbaceous Paeonies, all colors, from.....	30c to \$1.00
Herbaceous Perennial Phlox, new and fine variety.....	25
Climbing Roses, American varieties.....	25

Ladies who like early annual flowers, can plant the seed in a box, set it in a window where it will be warm, and the plants will be large enough to transplant when warm weather comes. The seed of China and German Asters, Candy Tuft, Annual Phlox, Marvel of Peru, Balsamine, Hearts Ease, Petunia, and numerous other plants will do well thus early planted, and they will flower a month earlier than when sown at the common time.

The wheat crop in Southern Illinois promises well.

Sugar Cane for Fodder.

A writer in the Country Gentleman, advertises to the fact that cattle cannot eat the sugar-cane stalks after they become dry and hard, and goes on to state that he has tried the cutting up of the stalks in a "Stalk Cutter and Grinder," and finds that his cattle, when the stalks are thus prepared, eat every portion freely. He also states that with this food, the cows have sensibly increased their milk. He believes that a single acre might be made to feed half a dozen cattle through the winter, and the cost of raising it would not exceed a dollar a ton. The production of an acre of good cane is enormous.

DRAINING.—We find a capital article on this subject in the "Weekly Quincy Whig and Republican." It gives a history of draining, and notices the benefits of the different systems. While we are satisfied that the greatest advantages can be received by the most extensive and thorough system, we are compelled to admit the truth that but few farmers have the means to adopt it: and under the circumstances our farmers must do the best they can; and the best they can do, now, extensively, is to surface drain.

The writer referred to, says:

"In many parts of our State the soil when new and first broken up was filled with fibrous substances, which kept it loose, so as readily to filter the water, and winter wheat was successfully cultivated. But as those substances have decomposed and left the soil more compact, so that the filtration of the water is obstructed, the crops are to a great degree liable to suffer from the frost. Draining is the only means to bring back such fields to wheat culture, are to secure at all times a sure and heavy crop. Underdraining as an art, has made great advances among the better class of farmers, especially in England, since the introduction of draining tile, or perhaps we should say since the modern use of tile, for prior to 1620 the garden of the monastery at Maubeuge, in France, was drained with earthen tile placed at a depth of about four feet, and so late as 1850, when the conformation of the surface was changed to make a park, this garden was famous for the excellence and abundance of its productions, and the people of the district had been at a loss to account for its astonishing fertility until the grading exposed a thorough system of drainage which had been made earlier than interments dating at 1620."

Thorough tile draining on some farms in New York has paid the whole cost in the increase of the crop in the first year. What better investment can a farmer of means make with his money?

Thousands of acres of land in Sangamon county were not put in cultivation last year on account of not being drained. Experience ought to teach wisdom.

SEED CORN.—We again suggest to our farming brethren the necessity of providing

themselves with seed corn; and be certain to have an early variety for an early crop. We are not certain of a favorable spring. It may be that we shall be late in getting our corn.

"Cherry Creek Farms."

Among the numerous letters from Cherry Creek (Pike's Peak country) is one which states that emigrants are making claims for farms near Cherry Creek; and in describing the "farming land," says "it will have to be cleared of trees and brush." This will be rather a damper on some who go out to Cherry Creek for the purpose of making farms.

And there is another obstacle in the way of success, of which but little has been said—the want of water. But little water falls in the region at the eastern base of the Rocky mountains in summer. The small streams nearly all dry up. Irrigation, therefore, will be difficult; and we are not sure but summer frosts will prove troublesome. We recollect that emigrants for Oregon, a few years ago, stated that water in buckets was covered with ice in July, while the companies were farming near the South Pass.

The Cherry Creek country must be elevated nearly as much as the South Pass. It is very certain that we shall have but little reliable information of the capabilities of the region near Pike's Peak as a farming and gold producing country until next autumn.

THE WHEAT.—It looks tolerably well on new prairie ground. We counsel our friends in this region, if their wheat is all gone, to sow a field of spring wheat, provided the seed can be sown in properly prepared ground in good season.

The farmers about Hartford, Connecticut river, are raising large quantities of tobacco. They get their seed annually from Cuba. The cultivation of tobacco pays them well.

PIKE'S PEAK.—We have news from that quarter to 5th February. Miners were still coming in. The talk about gold was as great as ever. Most of the accounts, however, we believe, are written by interested men. A good many who go to the mines will come back poorer than when they went. That is our opinion.

CREAM BISCUIT.—Four tea-cupsful of cream, one tea-spoonful of saleratus, dissolved in a cupful of milk. Both milk and cream should be sweet, or both sour. Add one egg, if you choose. Mix soft as you can, and not mould it much. Bake in a quick oven.

The Best Time to Sow Peas.

1. I have raised many peas, of many sorts, for market, both in garden and field culture. Those sowed early have, with great uniformity, produced the best crops. Peas sowed late are injured by dry, hot weather, and almost always mould more or less, and so produce a lighter crop. The cold freezing weather that often occurs in April and early May, does not injure peas once in ten years.

2. The pea-bug—alas, I know of no certain means of resisting this almost omnipotent enemy. The assertion that he may be avoided by very early sowing, is simply not true. It would seem that the pea-bug finds other places for the deposit of his eggs, in the absence of the peapod. Hence it is that clean seed, sown on soil where peas have not recently been grown, does not avoid him. The pea-bug, however, may always be cheaply and thoroughly expelled from the seed you are about to sow. Let your seed be well dried in the fall, and put up in close vessels. When you are about to sow them, turn them into a tub of water, when you can readily skim off and destroy every bug. Thus you will somewhat diminish your enemy. I do not esteem the presence of the bug in peas so great an evil as some other persons do. As the bug always deposits its egg in the side of the pod, and not in the edge, so the germ of the seed is rarely injured by it. True, the amount of food furnished by the body of the seed, is diminished just in proportion to the amount eaten away by the bug; but this is usually so small in proportion, as to make no great difference in its strength of early growth. For the table, the injury by the bug is small. The green pea, as shelled for the table, contains but the egg, and so is not greatly injured. To those who cook the pea as a winter food, and those dishonest persons who purchase (as many do,) and mix it with coffee, the presence of the bug is a serious drawback. [Correspondent Country Gentleman.]

Farmers, Plant Apple Orchards!

If any farmer who has had for twenty years a good orchard of grafted apple trees, properly selected for market, and in tolerably favorable portions of the country, has kept an account of the annual average product of his trees for that time, he will find that they have netted him fifty dollars per acre a year. This remark applies to such orchards as have had no care. Those which have received good cultivation have done better.

Why then cultivate whole farms, at hard labor, for a net proceed of five dollars per acre? Why not plant orchards? "They won't bear in an age." That is because, then, they receive no care. Give them the same chance that a crop of potatoes receives, (and which would not cost a tenth of the labor expended yearly on the potatoes,) and

they will send out shoots two or three feet long—but if neglected and weed-grown, and grass-bound, they will grow only two or three inches—in one instance twelve times as fast as in the other. No wonder, then, while the thrifty orchardist with his thrifty orchard, has fine young trees with remunerating crops in five years, the slipshod cultivator does not attain the same in fifty years, at the above estimated rates of growth. These rates are stated from the result of actual experiment, and not from hap-hazard estimates.

Plant orchards, then, of the best varieties. Occasionally, it is true, there may be destitute years, and sometimes the crop at large may overstock the common market. But the above yearly average may be attained at least, in the course of the seasons; and the cultivator who is known by his skill to have none but the best fruits, and make better than that of his neighbors by superior cultivation, will be eagerly sought by fruit buyers, even in the most abundant seasons, and if he ships his own apples, he may obtain tripple prices for his handsome and excellent specimens.—Country Gent.

Original Domestic Receipts.

BUTTERNUT PIE.—One quart of milk, two eggs, a coffee-cupful of pulverized butternut meats, and a little sugar and nutmeg.

TO REMOVE INK FROM LINEN.—Dip the soiled part in pure melted tallow. Wash out the tallow, and the ink stain will be removed with it.

ALMOND CUSTARDS.—Blanch a quarter of a pounds of almonds, beat fine; add a pint of cream, two spoonful of rose water, and the yolks of four eggs. Sugar to taste.

WIGGS.—Half a pint of warm milk, three quarters of a pound of flour, three spoonful of yeast. Let it rise, and work into four ounces each of sugar and butter, and a few carraway seeds. Bake quick.

AN EXCELLENT COMMON FRIED CAKE.—One cupful of sugar, one cupful of cream, three eggs, some cinnamon or nutmeg, and a teaspoonful of saleratus. Cut in jumbles or in strips, and twist and fry in lard.

DOUGGNUTS WITHOUT YEAST.—One cupful of sugar, two eggs, one cupful of fresh butter, three cupful of buttermilk, flour enough to form a dough, (not too stiff,) and one one teaspoonful of saleratus. Fry in lard.

BANNOCK.—Two cupful of meal, two cupful of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of ginger, and four spoonful of molasses. Wet up with buttermilk, adding a teaspoonful of saleratus. Bake one hour.

MILK TOAST.—Boil a pint of rich milk with a tablespoonful of butter, and one of flour. Have ready, in a dish, eight or ten slices of bread, toasted. Pour the milk over them hot, and cover it until it goes to the table.

HOW TO RENDER LADIES' DRESSES NON-COMBUSTIBLE.—Add a little powdered alum to the starch used in preparing them. The alum will prevent them from bursting into flame when placed in contact with any burning substance.

LOWELL BROWN BREAD (Capital.)—Three teacupful of Indian meal, two teacupful of rye, one half a teacupful of molasses, one teaspoonful of salt, and one teaspoonful of saleratus. Mix in one quart of new milk. Bake two hours.

BAKED INDIAN PUDDING.—Take three pints of new milk, and scald half of it. Stir in meal until quite thick; then add the remainder of the milk. Beat four eggs, and stir into the batter. Spice and sweeten to taste, and bake two hours.

RAISED BISCUIT.—To three pints of sifted flour, add one quart of boiling milk. When milk-warm, stir into the batter one cupful of potato or home-brewed yeast, and a teaspoonful of salt. When light, add one teaspoonful of soda, four spoonful of melted butter, two teaspoonful of white sugar, with flour stiff enough to mould. Make into small cakes. When light, bake in a quick oven.

COOKIES.—One cupful of butter, two cupful of sugar, four eggs, two table-spoonful of sour milk, and one tea-spoonful of saleratus, dissolved in milk. Do not work them stiff, only so as to roll. Bake in a moderate oven. When half done, strew them with grated loaf sugar.

CRULLERS.—One cupful of sugar sugar, one cupful of milk, half a cupful of butter, two table-spoonful of cream (if not too thick and rich—if rich, one table-spoonful is sufficient), two beaten eggs, and one tea-spoonful of saleratus. Work well, but not stiff—only so as to roll. Fry fast.

RICE PUDDING, WITH OR WITHOUT RAISINS.—One pint of cooked rice, one pint of milk, one tea-spoonful of salt, and yolks of four eggs. Bake till done; then add the whites of the eggs, beaten to a froth, with four table-spoonful of sugar. Bake again five minutes. Serve with liquid sauce.

BROWN BREAD WITHOUT YEAST.—One quart of Indian meal, one pint of white or brown flour, one tea-spoonful of salt, one-half a cupful of molasses, and one tea-spoonful of soda, dissolved in hot water, stirred into one quart of sour milk, warmed. Beat all together into a batter, and bake slowly two hours.

INDIAN MEAL PUFFS.—Into one quart of boiling milk stir eight table-spoonful of meal and four spoonful of sugar. Boil five minutes, stirring constantly. When cool, add six well-beaten eggs. Bake in buttered cups half an our. Try them with a little butter and maple molasses, and see if they are not good.

GINGER NUTS.—Ten cupful of flour, three cupful of molasses, one cupful of melted butter or pork gravy (it is good half and

half,) one cupful of sour cream, two table-spoonsful of saleratus, dissolved in half a cupful of warm water, and one table-spoonful of ginger. Make soft as can be rolled, and bake quick. This keeps well.

DROP BISCUIT.—One quart of sifted flour, one tea-spoonful of salt, one beaten egg, one small tea-spoonful of soda, dissolved in a little hot water, and cupful of cream, two cupsful of sour milk, or buttermilk, and a spoonful or two of white sugar. Stir thoroughly to a thick batter. Drop with a spoon on buttered tins. Bake in a quick oven.

FROSTED FEET.—W. A. R., in the Country Gentleman says: "Apply common tar to the parts affected, and bind up with a cloth, so as not to interfere with wearing a stocking. Wear this four days or a week. This I know is a sure cure, though it does not cost much."

WHITE BEANS.—These are worth \$1.75 per bushel. Few were raised the last year. It is a profitable crop; but clean, light and and poor soil is wanted; though they will grow well on rich clean soil. On rich soil, however, the navy bean, or some even larger varieties, should be grown.

Pigs.—We just say to our farmers, save all the pigs you can. You will want them next fall.

SEED SPRING WHEAT AND OATS.—Our readers will learn that these articles can be had by application to the Seed Store, Journal Buildings.

A despatch from Washington, states that Mr. McCormick failed in his application at the Patent Office for an extension of his patent for his reaper. It is now public property.

ON MAKING POETRY.—Rev. Dr. Plummer recently delivered an address at the opening of a female seminary at Wheeling, Va., in which he made the rejoined, among other sensible remarks. It deserves the consideration of a very considerable portion of the poetizers whose effusions are forwarded to newspaper editors, especially the closing sentence. Turning to the principal of the seminary, Doctor Plummer said:

"I hope sir, you'll not teach poetry here—I mean what some people call the science of composing poetry. If it will come from some of these youths, let it come, but don't force it. I feel about like the Methodist preacher who was giving a charge at a class meeting about some regulations. While in the midst of this charge one old lady uttered a shout. 'Now,' says he, since the subject of shouting has come up, brethren and sisters, I'll give you my views on the subject. Never shout from a sense of duty. If you feel that you can't hold in, why then shout, but not otherwise."

"I hope, then, that no one here will ever write poetry from a sense of duty. Poetry is despicable unless it is first class. Poor poetry is about the meanest of all things. As the Latin satirist has said, neither gods nor men can endure it."

Wit on Tombstones.

A vast amount of wit is to be gathered from tombstones and mortuary puns have long been famous. The epitaph of the witty divine, Dr. Thomas Fuller, is worthy of himself, simply.

Fuller's earth.

There is a professional point in the epitaph of the eminent barrister. Sir John Strange:

Here lies an honest lawyer—that is *Strange*.

And by what an outrageous quibble has the name of William Button, Esq., been handed down to immortality. The epitaph is to be seen in a churchyard near Salisbury:

O sun, moon, stars, and ye celestial poles!
Are graves, then, dwindled in to Button-holes?

There is something quaint and touching in this epitaph of Grimaldi, the distinguished clown:

Here I am.

One of the best of this briefer kind was proposed by Jerrold, whose wit did not always wear so courteous a dress. Charles Knight, the Shakspearean critic, was the subject, and the words:

Good Knight.

Professional rivalry produced this ill natured inscription for the tombstone of a Western editor:

Here lies an Editor.

It is added that the injured man recommended the author to use the inscription as a motto for his own journal.

Of historic epitaphs the best is this one on one of Shakespeare's actors:

Exit Burbage.

In a similar vein a wit gave a couplet to Mrs. Oldfield, the most celebrated actress in her day:

This we must own, in justice to her shade,
The first bad exit Oldfield made.

Something of compliment is her sacrificed to make the point. It is the reverse of Malcolm's Eulogy on Cawdor:

Nothing in his life
Became him like the leaving of it.

The comedian Foote takes his turn, turn:

Foote from his earthly stage, alas! is hurled,
Death took him off, who took off all the world.

Westminster Abbey has some notable epitaphs. This, by Samuel Wesley, is on the monument to Butler, the author of Hudibras:

When Butler, needy wretch! was still alive,
No generous patron would a dinner give,
See him, when starved to death and turned so dust,
Presented with a monumental bust!
The poet's fate is here in emblem shown;
He asked for bread, and he received a stone.

This couplet, on a monument to John Gay, the poet, Thackeray's "little French Abbe," is hardly suited to a Christian church:

Life is a jest, and all things show it;
I thought so once, and now I know it.

And what a defiance there is in this, on the monument of "that gallant soldier, Sir Thomas Vere:

When Vere sought death, armed with his sword and shield,
Death was afraid to meet him in the field;
But when his weapons he had laid aside,
Death like a coward, struck him, and he did die.

Sir Thomas Parkins the great wrestler, caused a monument to be built for himself, on which was a sculpture in relief, depicting Death in the act of throwing Sir Thomas. The epitaph, which is in Latin, reads as follows:

Here lies the chief who once threw all,
Thrown by the conquering arm of Death,
Who ne'er had given the knight a fall,
But he found him out of breath.
But boast not Death! with empty pride,
Thy strength; the day will come when he
Arising, with fresh breath supply'd,
Shall vanquish time, and conquer thee.

Miss Long was a beautiful actress of the last century; so short in stature that she was known as the pocket Venus. Her epitaph concludes:

Though long, yet short,
Though short, yet *Pretty Long*.

Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a

covetous man, and this pasquinading epitaph was put on him:

Here lies his Grace, in cold clay clad,
Who died for want of what he had.

The reverse of this is one on Mr. James Worsdale, a very liberal man:

Eager to get, but not to keep the pelf;
A friend to all mankind, but not himself.

Old Joseph Capen, minister of Topsfield, had also, in 1861, given John Foster, who set up the first printing press in Boston, the benefit of the idea, *in memoriam*:

Thy body which no activeness did lack,
Now's laid aside like an old almanac;
But for the present only's out of date,
'Twill have at length a far more active state.
Yea, though with dust thy body soiled be,
Yet at the resurrection we shall see
A fair edition, and of matchless worth,
Free from *Errata*, new in Heaven led forth;
'Tis but a word from God, the great Creator—
It shall be done when he saith *Imprimatur*.

We close our list with the pathetic inscription placed by an honest Illinois farmer over the double grave of a span of favorite horses, struck down by lightning, and buried in his front yard:

Peace to their manes!

COMMERCIAL.

St. Louis Market--Feb. 26.

FLOUR.—Sales of 2000 bbls city superfine, Montgomery brand, early delivery, at \$5 75; 75 and 100 do country, double extra, \$6 25; 100 do, single do, \$6; 60 do fancy, \$5 35; 80 do superfine \$5 25; 100 do \$2 75.

WHEAT.—Sales of 306 sds poor and ordinary fall, at 105¢; 110¢; 1132 do common, 115¢; 116¢; 1374 do fair and good 118¢; 120¢; 265 do good white, 121¢; 352 do low prime, 122½¢; 123¢; 56 do 124¢; 494 do prime and strictly prime, 125¢; 130¢; 221 do BACON—10 cks city shoulders 7½¢; 10 do city clear sides 11¢; 37 do country shoulders 7½¢; 2 do hams 9¼¢.

WHISKY.—307 bbls sold in lots at 28¢.

DRIED FRUITS.—Sales of 115 bushels apples at \$2 60; other small lots do 2 50; small lot peaches 3 50.

SEED.—92 sds good timothy at 2; 125 bushels poorly cleaned at 1 85; 32 sds Hungarian grass, private.

GREASE.—5 tes sold at 9¼¢ and 10 pkgs brown t 8¾¢.

WHEAT BEANS.—Dull. Sale of 100 bbls on private terms.

POTATOES.—50 bags poor Neshannocks at 95¢, including bags; 53 bbls do \$4 05, including bbls; 50 prime do 1 20, exclusive of bbls.

HAY.—21 bales prime at 80¢.

TALLOW.—24 tes sold on private terms.

SUGAR.—50 hhds fair at 7¢.

St. Louis Horse Market.

Supplies are coming in, which has made the market more active, and 63 head of horses and mules have been sold at the Bazaar Stable, by P. Wiles, on Fifth street between Washington Avenue and Green streets, during the week as follows: Tuesday, at auction sale, 13 head sold: 1 fine b ggy horse, \$180; 1 brood mare, \$150; 1 draft horse, \$111; 2 omnibus horses, \$110 each; 1 brood mare, \$107; 7 head common sold from \$58 to \$99. At Friday's auction sales, 16 head sold, as follows: 1 buggy horse, \$119; 1 do \$125; 1 do small, \$101; 1 do draft horse, \$125; 1 do \$100; 1 do \$122; 7 head common and inferior horses sold from \$41 to \$83; 1 pair small mules, \$218; 1 single mule \$139. Private sales were had during the week as follows: 1 pair matched greys, \$406; 1 pair ponies, \$250; 1 pair buggy horses \$289; 1 pair wagon horses, \$275; 1 fine bob-tail mare \$175; 1 do horse, \$150; 1 fine family horse, \$275; 1 do, \$180; 2 draft horses, \$295; 1 brood mare, \$159; 1 brown buggy horse, \$150; 1 pair medium sized mules, \$275; 1 pair do \$250; 3 small mules, \$100 each; 11 head common horses at from \$75 to \$110. Thirty head left over, with a supply coming in more than equal to the demand.

St. Louis Live Stock Market--Feb. 26.

Belleuve Stock Yards

The market has been barely supplied with Beef Cattle for the past week, with sales of several lots at prices ranging from 7 to 8½¢ net. Butchers pay for ordinary to fair 6¾ to 8¢; for good to choice 8 to 9¢. A few extra sold at a fraction higher.

HOGS.—Several small lots arrived during the past week and sold readily at 7½ to 9¢, at an average from 140 to 200 pounds net.

SHEEP.—Are selling at \$3 to \$5 per head, as to quality.

COWS AND CALVES.—A moderate stock offering, and in fair demand at \$20 to \$45 per head.

New York Cattle Market--Feb. 23.

The following tables show from what States the supply at 4th street came:

New York.....	983	Connecticut.....	35
Indiana.....	181	Kentucky.....	153
Ohio.....	770	Michigan.....	82
Illinois.....	187	Pennsylvania.....	71
Iowa.....	50		

The following are the prices at which stock was sold.

BEEF CATTLE.

Premium quality, per cwt.....	\$13 00@13 50
Prime quality.....	10 50@11 50
Ordinary quality.....	9 00@10 00
Common quality.....	7 50@8 50
Inferior quality.....	6 50@7 00

COWS AND CALVES.

First quality.....	\$50 00@70 00
--------------------	---------------

Ordinary quality.....	40 00@50 09
Common quality.....	30 00@35 00
Inferior quality.....	20 00@25 00

VEAL CALVES.

Prime quality, per lb.....	6 @6 1/2c
Ordinary quality.....	5 @5 1/2c

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Prime quality, per head (extra).....	\$6 50@12 50
Ordinary.....	4 0@4 50
Inferior.....	3 50@3 75

SWINE.

First quality, per 100 lbs (extra).....	6 50@7 00
Inferior qualities, per 100 lbs.....	5 06@6 00

GENERAL REMARKS.

At market, 2715 beeves, 207 cows, 553 veals, 6159 sheep and lambs, and 8000 swine—showing an increase of 228 beeves, 41 cows, 478 sheep and lambs, and 1382 swine, and a decrease of 16 veals. The number of beef cattle on sale at Allerton's to day, was 2430. At Bergen, N. J., 437 head were sold to butchers for this market. The cattle were mainly from New York and Ohio. The trade to-day was rather active at the full prices of last week, and for the best grades, which were scarce, even higher figures were obtained. We quote ordinary at 7@10 cents, and extra well fed beeves at 10 1/2@11 1/2c. Some premium sold as high as 12@13 1/2c. Among the sales was a fine Dunham ox owned by H. S. Fowler, fed by Joseph Ketchum, Yates co. N. Y., weighing at Bergen Hill 2700 lbs., bought by Geo. Haws for \$220, equal to 13 1/2c for the meat; Woodruff & Co. were the sellers. Cows have not varied; sales at \$20@65. Calves are quiet at 5@6c. Sheep and lambs are a shade higher for ordinary grades. We quote at \$3 50 @10; some extra \$12. Swine are less active. The demand is to the trade for consumption; packers have ceased to cut, the season being over. Western dressed hogs are not coming in. We quote heavy western at 6 1/2@7c gross, light do 5@5 1/2c heavy distillery at 6 1/4c.

EVERGREENS.

ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S. FRANCIS for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitae, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

Nell Pine Strawberry plants at \$3 50 per 1000; and Hybrid Scotch Rhubarb at \$3 per 100.

Orders for the articles may be left with
mchl S. FRANCIS.

HEDGE PLANTS, BY THE MILLION.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFERS HEDGE Plants, two years old, of the very finest growth and size, for sale very low, in any quantity.

mchl S. FRANCIS.

SEEDS.

GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS in great variety, for sale by S. FRANCIS. Seeds will be sent by express or mail, as ordered.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL RECEIVE orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery to be had from any Nursery in this State. The articles will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries.

mchl S. FRANCIS.

MELLONS.

SEEDS OF THE FAMOUS JAPAN AP- ple pie melon at 39 cents per doz., by W. H. Gardner, Sublette, Lee Co., Illinois.
farm mchl

SEED WHEAT.

"CANADA CLUB," "SCOTCH FIFE," "DUNDEE," &c. Hellwell, Brother, Milwaukee, Wis., and B. F. Pixley & Co., Janesville, have received from Canada West a supply of these Spring Wheats for seed. It is well known that the change of seed produces a large increase of the crop. Applications for this seed can be made at S. FRANCIS Seed Store, Springfield, who will send orders to meet the wishes of farmers.

SEED OATS.

Persons desiring seed oats, should apply immediately as above.
farm mchl

NANSEMOND SWEET POTATO.

FARMERS AND DEALERS WISHING to secure a good and reliable variety of Sweet Potatoes for this climate, can have them shipped to their order at the proper time next April, by sending in time \$10 per barrel (three bushels) for the quantity they desire. Send direct to us, and thereby avoid being imposed upon with Southern Potatoes, which are comparatively worthless at the North for seed. J. W. TEN BROOK, Rockville, Park Co., Ind.
mchl WM. A. ALLEN, Vincennes, Knox Co., Ind.

GARDENER WANTED.

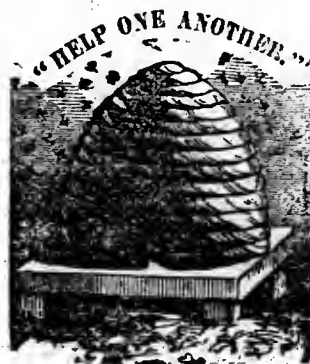
A MAN WHO HAS PRACTICAL EXPE- rience, and understands general farm work, will be required. One who could take charge of the same if necessary, and manage a fruit garden, preferred. Can furnish house for family, and would be willing if practicable, to contract system for mutual benefits after the first year. Wages moderate.

Applicants can communicate with the undersigned at Athens, Illinois.
ELIHU HALL.

MICHIGAN DOUBLE PLOWS,
AND ALL OTHER KINDS OF DEERE'S

Moline Plows, for sale by mchl S. FRANCIS.

ILLINOIS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL
UNLIMITED

AND CONSTANTLY
INCREASING.

PRESENT FUND

for the payment of

LOSSES BY FIRE
\$1,000,000 0

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AT ALTON, ILL.

THIS COMPANY WAS CHARTERED.

In 1839, and insures, at a moderate cost, almost every species of property in Illinois against Loss or Damage by Fire. The rates of risk are so arranged that each class of property insured will support its own loss.

Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. The capital augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks; the security for which remains in the hands of the insured; therefore, every member is the treasurer of his own money until the same is required for the purpose of paying losses.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tim. Turner,	Lyman Trumbull,	H. W. Billings,
Benj. F. Long,	Samuel Wade,	M. G. Atwood,
John James,	L. Kellenberger,	Robert Smith,
Henry Lea,	Elias Hubbard,	Alfred Dow,
F. A. Hoffmann,	B. K. Hart,	John Atwood,

B. F. LONG, President.

L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.

M. G. ATWOOD, Secretary.

JOHN ATWOOD, Ass't Secretary.

JOHN BLAISDELL, Gen'l Agent.

Application for insurance may be made to the Local Agents, one or more of whom may be found in every county in the State.
JAMES L. HILL, Agent.

jan10 d3mw1y

THE COLEMAN FARM MILL.

THE WONDER AND ADMIRATION OF the age: Every farmer his own miller! Great saving of time and expense, the only successful metallic mill ever invented for making buck wheat and family flour. It can be run by Horse, Steam, Wind or Water power.

Price, with Sieve arranged, for sifting Corn Meal for family use, while grinding, \$50.

Price, with Bolting Machine attached, for making family flour, \$75.

Descriptive circulars can be had, or the mill can be seen in operation, at the Office of the "Coleman Farm Mill Company," Tribune Buildings, No. 7 Spruce St., N. Y., where all orders will receive prompt attention.

MARTIN THATCHER, Secretary.

feb8w6mjc a o o

EARLY NANSEMOND POTATOES.

THIS VARIETY OF POTATOES HAS been tried in Indiana for years, and for two or three of the last years in Illinois, and has proved to be an early variety, sweet and fine, and better adapted to our climate than any other of the numerous varieties that have been tested. While the large northern varieties become wet and stringy in unfavorable seasons, these are always dry, and fit for the table at any stage of their growth.

We have them now for sale in sufficient quantities to meet the demand, and which will be sold for \$10 a barrel, delivered at the railroad or express office in Terre Haute or at Vincennes, securely packed in barrels, holding about three measured bushels. Less than one barrel, \$3 per bushel, and \$1 for boxing and delivering as above.

The cash must be sent with the order, either by draft on New York or by express to Terre Haute, at our cost and risk, or by mail at the risk of the person sending it.

The undersigned refer for the excellence of these potatoes to Judge S. W. Robbins and A. B. McConnell, Esq., of Springfield, and D. J. Scott, of Sangamon county; M. L. Dunlap, of Champaign county; H. D. Emery, of Chicago; F. R. Phoenix, Bloomington; S. Francis, Springfield.

To secure a supply of these potatoes, early application should be made.
J. W. TEN BROOK,

Rockville, Clarke county, Indiana.

WESTERN TREES FOR WESTERN SOILS!

FRUIT TREES, ORNAMENTAL TREES,
SHUBBERY OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

FIELD, FLOWER AND GARDEN SEEDS,

AND

Agricultural Implements,

Can be had at the store of

S. FRANCIS,

Springfield,.....Illinois.

Orders respectfully solicited. They will be filled in good faith.

CATALOGUE

OF

GARDEN SEEDS

FOR SALE BY S. FRANCIS,
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

Asparagus, Artichoke.

BEANS, FOR SNAPE—Valentine, Early Newington, Thousand to One, Early Mohawk, Early China, White Cranberry Bunch, Royal White Bunch.

BEANS, POLE—London Horticultural Cranberry, Siva, Lima, Red Cranberry, Indian Chief.

CABBAGE—Early Wakefield, Early York, Red Dutch, Early Sugar Leaf, Premium Flat Dutch, Large American Drumhead, Drumhead and Kohl Rabi.

CAULIFLOWER—Early London.

CORN—Early Red Cob Sweet Mammoth Sweet, Early Tuscarora, &c, Smith's Early White.

BEETS—Early Bassano, Early Blood Turnip, Long Blood Red, Mangel Wurtzel, &c., English Sugar Beet, &c., White Sugar.

CUCUMBERS—Short Green Early, Long London, Long Turkey, Gherkin, &c.

CELERY—Solid white, crystal white, solid red.

CRESS—Curled double, broad leaf.

CARROT—Common yellow, early horn, blood red, Belgium yellow.

EGG PLANT—Early long purple.

KALE—Sea kale.

LETTUCE—Ice" coss, early Silesia, green drumhead, &c., early white.

MELON—(Cantalope), pine apple, nutmeg, beach wood, green citron, large yellow cantaloupe.

WATER MELON—Mountain sprout, mountain sweet. Long Island, ice cream, black Spanish, citron melons Nasturtium, Okra, short and long green.

ONION—Large Wetherfield red, early red, Danver's yellow, yellow silver skin, white Portugal.

PEPPER—Large bull nose, large squash, Spanish, cherry, small cayenne.

PEAS—Early Comstocks dwarf, Bishop's long pod, champion of England, dwarf Prussian, large marrowfat, Prince Albert.

PUMPKIN—Large yellowfield, parsnip, long sweet.

PARSLEY—Double curled, Myatt's garnishing.

RHUBARB—Mitchell's early, Myatt's Victoria, Spinach.

SQUASHES (winter.)—Autumnal marrow, winter crookneck: lima cocoadnut, Hubbard's winter.

SQUASHES (summer.)—Early crookneck bush, early yellow bush.

TURNIP—Flat Dutch, early six weeks and various varieties.

TOBACCO—Varieties.

TOMATO—Large red, red cherry, yellow.

SAGE—Common red.

RADISH—Early red turnip, early long red short top, long, salmon, black Spanish, Salsify (white), scorzonera.

Seeds of various garden herbs.

FLOWER SEEDS—In great variety—embracing a hundred sorts.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE SEEDS—and various other seeds for garden and field usually found at Seed Stores.

INSURANCE NOTICE

TO
MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.

PERSONS WISHING TO OBTAIN INSU- rance in companies among the best and most responsible in the Union, are invited to call upon the undersigned, who will take pleasure in affording them all the necessary information. Good dwelling houses taken at low rates. All losses equitably adjusted and promptly paid.
feb 25, dtf. T. S. MATHER.

RESOLVED, BY UNANIMOUS CON-

sent, that *hedging* on the prairies is a *decided success* wherever it has had a "fair shake."

Overman & Mann, Commercial Nursery, near Bloomington, offer for the spring trade of 1859, about eleven millions of *Laclura* Hedge Plants, two years old, of superior quality. Also, apple root grafts in box, and one and two years old, small fruits, evergreens, shrubbery, &c., &c. Prices and terms *unusually favorable*. Give us a call *without fail*. Hedge-grower's Manual sent to all applications.

Address Overman & Mann, (Box 600) Bloomington Illinois.
jan7-fw

BRIMSTONE—FOR SALE BY

CORNEAU & DILLER.

SAL SODA—FOR WASHING PURPOSES, for sale by CORNEAU & DILLER.

B. F. FOX,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREHOUSE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Butts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bits, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Steplee's Morticing Machines, Files, etc.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Bullheads, etc.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, etc.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholm's Butcher's and other's, Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Curvers, etc. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and double barreled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers' prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Rosettes, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Pouches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Muslin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Boxes, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belting, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.

May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX.

THE ILLINOIS**Mutual Fire Insurance Co.**

LOCATED AT ALTON ILLINOIS.

CHARTERED FEB. 23, 1839. ORGANIZED APRIL 4, 1839.

Amount of premium notes in force February 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of Losses,

\$800,000.00,

Secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over

\$9,000,000!

THIS company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufacturing, mills, barns, stables and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the State, from

LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE!

The Directors feel justified in recommending this company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member, the company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks, the capital of the company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this company is so low, as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LYMAN TRUMBULL,	ELIAS HIBBARD,	L. KELLENBERGER,
BENJ. F. LONG,	SAMUEL WADE,	ALFRED DOW,
ROBERT SMITH,	JOHN JAMES,	BENJ. K. HART,
TIMOTHY TURNER,	HENRY LEA,	JOHN BAUGHACHE,
M. G. ATWOOD,	NATH'L HANSON,	JOHN ATWOOD,

BENJAMIN F. LONG, President.

LEWIS KELLENBERGER, Treas.

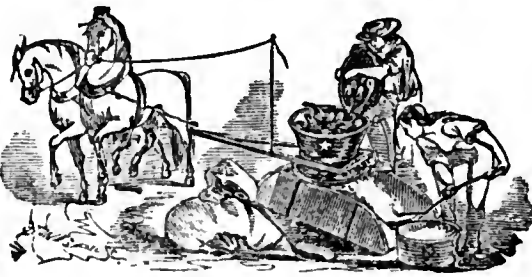
M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.

An Agent for this Company may be found in almost every County of the State.

Application for insurance may be made to

JAMES L. HILL, Agent.

at Springfield.

STAR CO R MILL,

For Grinding Corn, Cob, Hominy or Meal and General Stock Feed.

WE DELIVER THIS MILL AT ANY point, or from our wagons, that run through the different parts of the country, at the manufacturer's retail price, which is, for the mill complete, \$60.

Orders, or letters of inquiry should be addressed to

HUNT, PYKE & Co., Springfield, Ill.

We need but say that where the Star Mill has been used, it has gained credit beyond all other Mills now in use; and the farmer only needs to see and try it in order to become convinced that it is perfect in its arrangement from the fact that it grinds green as well as old corn, (corn and cob passing through it together,) which no other Mill will do. Farmers and stock-growers can save from 30 to 40 bushels of corn in each 100 by the use of this Mill; (at least we have certificates to that effect.) Persons having once experienced its benefit, will never return to the wasteful practice of feeding corn in the ear.

It will undoubtedly make good meal of shelled corn for family use.

The Mill grinds from twelve to twenty bushels per hour, and makes an easy draft for two horses.

We can produce first premiums, diplomas, and recommendations too numerous to mention.

For full particulars, references and description of Mills, see circulars.

N. B.—Persons can be supplied with a Star Mill, and also see one in operation by calling at the Agricultural Store of

FRANCIS & BARRELL,

Authorized Agents.

Jan 1, 1858

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,	Wm. Poffinbarger,
J. J. Short,	David Newsom,
John W. Deck,	Uriah Mann,
John Kavanaugh,	Philemon Stout.

Sangamon county, Jan 1st, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER, Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

aug4-wlv

B. B. LLOYD, DENTIST,

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Condel, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 1855.

Sweet Potat Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (See advertisement of early Nansemond potatoes) feb1

S. FRANCIS.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR POTASH!**CONCENTRATED LYE!**

A FAMILY ARTICLE.

For making soap without Lime, and with little or no trouble and trifling expense.

THE CHEAPEST AND MOST CONVE- NIENT article ever offered to the public for that purpose. EVERY FAMILY can make all the soap they use from their ordinary kitchen grease and this Lye. Nothing else is required.

ONE POUND BOX will make 25 gallons of fine soft soap, or nine pounds of elegant hard soap, and several gallons of soft.

A single trial will convince any one of its great utility and cheapness.

PRINTERS, and all others using a strong Lye, will find the "Concentrated" three hundred per cent. cheaper than anything else they can use.

For sale by all the Druggists and Grocers in the country.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!

Manufactured only by the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company, Pittsburg, Pa., who manufacture extra superfine snow white TABLE, DAIRY and PORK PACKERS SALT, warranted free from all impurities, and the only really pure salt made in this country.

Caustic soda, for soap makers, soda ash, refined soda ash, sal soda, bleaching powder, bleaching liquor, manganese, nitric acid, muriatic acid, aqua fortis, chloroform, soda saleratus.

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For sale wholesale and retail, by

J. B. FOSSELMAN, Druggist.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Dere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style,

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and

Giddes Double Harrow.

Ox Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner,

and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking

Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kinds of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention

Sept., 1858—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

All of said articles can be had on application to

Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

Western Land Office.**T. S. MATHER.**

FOR THE

PURCHASE AND SALE OF CITY PRO- perty, Farms and Unimproved Lands,

PAYMENT OF TAXES,

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Government Lands

ENTERED WITH WARRANTS OR CASH IN ANY LAND DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, MISSOURI, MINNESOTA OR NEBRASKA.

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Office over N. H. Ridgely's Bank, West side Public Square, Springfield, Ills.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES SHUABERY, &c.

S. FRANCIS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL., will receive orders for all description of trees from the DuPage County Nurseries, L. Ellsworth & Co., proprietors. These trees are well grown, healthy, and their genuineness is warranted. Orders for fall planting can be forwarded to them at any time from June till November.

Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

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QUEENSWARE.

A LARGE LOT DIRECT FROM THE potteries in England, to be sold at very low prices by

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S. FRANCIS.

Drills.

ON HAND, FOR SALE, THE BEST varieties of rain drills.

S. FRANCIS.

meadow and treading in in the winter, it improves the meadow very much. When the heavy rains come, and the frost is going out of the ground in the spring take the stock off.

I think it is not best to sow more Wheat than double the amount you think you will want for bread. If it should not be more than half a crop you will still have enough for bread. Always sow your Wheat in September. Whenever you get your hay and wheat stacked go over all your fields and pull up all the cockle burrs, and the balance of the sour dock you did not see in June. The time to pull up the sour dock is after the first rains in June; then it comes up easy. If it should get too hard to pull get a chisel made two and a half inches broad, fifteen inches long, and thick enough through so that a man cannot bend or break it. Get a shank put to it for a man to put his foot on, with a handle on it to push it down by the side of the dock, then pry it up by the roots; it is much easier than to pull them when they get old, and burn them when the seed gets ripe.

If you have old land plow it up ten or twelve inches deep in the fall or fore part of winter. You will find you will raise almost double the quantity of corn with less work than by plowing shallow in the spring. I like it best to cut and set up my corn sixteen hills square. When you commence your shock throw the first load on the ground, then cross it. It stands up much better than to the hills together, while even the blade is not blown away it is a good time to cut corn. There is a great deal of corn spoiled by cutting it when too green. You had better cut it when the blade is all blown, and perfectly dry to feed fat cattle, than cut it too green.

If you want to make money by feeding steers, commence feeding on the 1st of October. Let your cattle remain on the pasture and do not give them more than six quarts once a day. After feeding them ten days you may give them seven quarts per day if your cattle are large. Feed at the same time of day as near as possible. If you want to get them fat soon, by the first of November give them five quarts twice a day; by the 10th of November give them six quarts twice a day. Increase very slowly, but never give them their full feed until cold weather if that should not be until January. I expect good grass until cold weather. Do not put them in a lot until cold weather. Your cattle will be much healthier than if in a lot, and take much less corn. By the latter end of January or the first part of February begin to feed so that they will have beds of corn and fodder to lay on, if corn is cheap and you want to get cash without grazing them.

Have hogs enough to eat up all the waste corn. If you feed heavy have half as many stock cattle as fat cattle to follow. If you can, get cattle to follow coming four years old. If you can get a chance sell your fat cattle the first opportunity and put as many more in their place. Remember to commence with them so as not to founder them. Do not get to a full feed under ten days or two weeks. They will be good for the June market. Whenever you can get a price sufficient to make a reasonable profit sell and buy more. My judgment whenever I have anything to sell, and can get a reasonable profit, is to sell any thing I have to spare. Do not sell on credit unless you are sure of getting your money.

Wheat wastes very much unless it is well stacked—laying out of your money, paying interest and cash and losing credit—I think it is better to sell any thing you have to sell than to let the officer sell it.

I have not, for many years, let my stock horses in a stable. Let them run out all winter. Give them nothing but hay, when there is snow on the ground. I have a blue grass pasture, water, and brush in it. I do not wean a colt. I put my stallion with the mares, never catch the horse to put to the mares, but turn them together to let them do as they please. There is no doubt but the mothers of the young colts wean them as our mothers wean us. Come to my place and you will see several young colts running with their mothers, and the young sucking colts fat. I wintered rising seventy head of stock horses last winter without any grain of any description. They all did not eat exceeding six tons of hay during the winter, and I am doing the same way this winter. I sold a few days ago a pair of brown bay colts three years old past, for three hundred and fifty dollars, with ten per cent. interest from date until paid, with good security. The colts were not more than half broken. I sold the same day a filly three years old for one hundred and thirty dollars, getting more than half cash and ten per cent. interest until the balance is paid. The same day I sold a filly four years old, not broke, for one hundred and fifty dollars—American gold.

I raise five colts large enough to use, cheaper than one steer. The trouble with the colts is that you cannot sell a lot of colts together for the cash as you can steers. Raise horses, steers, hogs, and babies, if you feel like it. It is better to raise hogs than dogs.

Whenever you get your corn cut, dig your potatoes and gather your apples before they freeze. Then fall to making rails and resetting your fence. I think it pays well to reset your fence once in every four or five years. Make a good

fence sufficient to save your crops.—Stake and rider it. To double rider it is for the best. It keeps it from blowing down and keeps you and your neighbors on good terms by having a good fence. I think by this time you can keep away from town ten weeks without over straining yourself.

If you have to go, do not go on Saturday, for every trifling, indolent person is there to hinder you from attending to your business. Whenever you enter the door, ask for what you want, get it all, and then go home to your wife and boys. By staying all day and going home in the night you are apt to eat too much, and not apt to work enough in the night to make it digest well, which if you had gone home when you should, you could have packed the same load and had time to have worked it off before night, and not have hurt you. Take care to do all your work in the proper season. Ground plows much easier and lighter for your teams when ploughed in the proper season than it does out of season. Dr. Franklin says, "Riches are like the ark, the growth of it is not in one year. The daily additions of pence in time makes full purses."

If I understand him—he means, if you cannot get five dollars per day, take what you can get, rather than do nothing, and get into mischief as many an idle fellow does, for it takes many a hard year of labor to pay the penalty of crime, besides the loss of character, which is the worst of all, when had they been at work for two bits a day, it would be much better for them, and have saved their friends from distress.

When I was about sixteen years old I went to rake hay in Pennsylvania for Jacob Rusch, much the wealthiest man in all that country. I worked from the time the dew was off the hay, close and tight, until dark, and went two and a half miles after my money, and got seven and a quarter cents for my day's work, together with a great deal of praise for being a good boy. My father, Josiah Strawn, died by the side of Mr. Rusch.

Jacob Rusch, bought all his sons, except Reuben, the best and largest farm in that country, and gave them everything to work them besides. And if I am rightly informed, there is not one of them doing well. Reuben Rusch had just brains enough to work. On Monday morning he would get up at twelve o'clock, and thresh wheat until twelve o'clock, at night, and then half of the night all the week.

I think it is much better to bring up our children to industrious and steady habits, and give them a good common education, if we cannot give them one dollar. There is being educated in Jacksonville, Morgan Co., enough law-

yers, doctors and fools to supply the globe. A child whose head is not right, it only injures to crowd in dead languages. Common English education is the best, unless their heads are right, and they wish to study a profession.

When you wake up do not roll over, *but roll out*. It will give you time to ditch all your sloughs, and break them up, and harrow them, and sow them with timothy, with a small portion of red clover seed with it. One bushel of clover with ten bushels of timothy is sufficient. March is a good time to sow; but August is the best, if there are rains after that time. I do not remember of ever failing having a good stand, when I sowed my seed in March, with nothing with it. If you do not need your money until June or July; feed a peck of good corn planted in April, at two feeds. Feed in the morning a few minutes after the sun rises the other feed long enough before night, so that they will get done eating before night. Try to not vary feeding ten minutes in the time of feeding each day.—Make your fence high, tight and strong, so that it will keep your cattle in and pigs out. Some of my neighbors who bought cattle last fall, had such poor fences that the cattle jumped into the corn field and eat until they were foundered so badly they will not get over it this season, besides destroying much more than they ate. If you have brush, make your lots there, and be sure to keep pigs and hogs from the cattle; for if the corn is clean they will eat it much better. Study your interests closely, and do not spend one-twentieth part of your time in electing Presidents, Senators, or other small officers, and talking of hard times, while spending your time in town setting on the store boxes and whittling all the soft wood up, instead of leaving it to kindle fires with, so they can get to business.

Be sure to get your hands to bed by seven o'clock, and they will be compelled to rise early by the force of circumstances. Pay a hand—if he is a poor hand—all you promise him; if he is a good hand pay him a little more; it will encourage him to do still better. When I was younger, and employing a great many hands, (I have worked over two hundred a day,) I made it a universal rule all the time—to pay good hands more than I promised them. I thought it brought me more interest than any money I ever handled. Extra pay is appreciated by a good young man much. Always feed them as well as you feed yourselves, for the laboring men are the bone and sinew of the world, and ought to be well treated. All our wealth and fine clothes come by hard labor. Even our pianos, and all our music which our girls prize so highly come by hard labor. Our best girls, if they would go to bed

three hours earlier than their usual time, and get up two hours sooner, which would give them one hour more to sleep than they now get, and when they did get up, help get the breakfast, wash the dishes, and sling the pots around—not so as to over-strain themselves, they would be much healthier, more handsome, and get better husbands.

I am satisfied that getting up early, industry and regular habits, are the best medicines ever prescribed for health.—Look at our general surveyors, when first running off the land in the West, wading in water from the shoe-mouth to waist, at night making calculations, keeping their mind employed, were well and hearty, while the hands employed in carrying the chain, when they stopped, had nothing to do, laid down, and died like rotten sheep. When did you ever know of a General in the army that was a man, but what was at his post when duty called for it, in good health? Look at our neighbors in the spring, about the time their corn should be planted. They get in a great hurry, getting harness, plows, and almost everything belonging to their business—bustling around, going to mill, getting a part of a load of wood at a time and not time enough to haul a full load at a time, they are so extremely hurried to get their corn planted.

If they would keep at work all the season, we would starve the lawyers and whip the doctors. If you want to find a treasure hidden of gold, haul your wood the first cold weather, and be sure to haul enough to last one year. When it comes rainy, bad weather, so you cannot plough, cut and split your wood.—Make your tracks when it rains hard, cleaning your stables or fixing something which you would have to stop the plough for, and fix in good weather. Make your tracks fixing your fence or gate that is off the hinges, or weather-boarding your barn when the wind has blown away siding, or patching the roof of your house or barn after the plough. Some years ago I was at an educated man's house in Macoupin County, Illinois, about six miles east of Carlinville. I had bought of him at St. Louis a lot of what he called fat cattle, just strong enough to travel up to Morgan County. He invited me to go home with him, saying he had a better lot of cattle there. If my memory serves me right, our horses were put in what had been a frame barn under a small quantity of hay and likely some grain. Almost all the weather-boarding was off his barn, which made it I think, much colder in the barn owing to the many crafts of air through it, than it was out in the open air. My horse had nothing to eat, and stood trembling like Balthazar. I being a tender hearted man, felt truly sorry for my horse. With some difficulty I got him

plenty of feed, and then went back to the house much encouraged. There was a number of his neighbors there when I went in. I learned he had been building the season before, and had not paid up his bills. He was complaining very bitterly of hard times. His boot heels were up against his mantel piece, which was full of small holes. I asked him what made so many holes in his mantel piece. He was then seated in his chair with his heels against his mantel piece. He seemed to be diverted to think I was no smarter, and told me it was his boot-heels that made the holes. I did not like to be accused of being foolish or silly before so many people, and I told him that I thought if those tracks that were on his mantel piece were weather-boarding his barn or after his plough it would tell to better advantage, and times would not be so extremely hard. If I understood it aright all those men were after money he owed them. It made a hearty laugh, and he looked at me as sour as sin. I expected to be ordered out of the house into the snow.—He finally forced a smile, and I was glad of it. I think a man is doing wrong to place his heels higher than his head. It looks to me as though it was unhealthy. I think our heels were made to use under us, not over us.

I call the attention of every person in Illinois of every sex, name and nation, that we all ought to be assessed to work on the State and County roads in proportion to our property, and let the poor laboring class of men work if they see fit. This winter past I heard of one of our neighbors selling a cord of fire wood for eight dollars (when the common price was three dollars) because the road were so bad ordinarily that teams could not get in. This was in the town of Jacksonville. Our roads are a disgrace to our State, put it on us one and all, town and country, in proportion to our property, and let us enhance the value of our lands and fill our pockets, besides having the satisfaction of traveling on good roads. We have the soil, material and tools to excel the world if we would use them and make our tracks to advantage.

When I came up to Springfield and landed at the depot the news was that they could not get to the hotel with a team. I looked around me to see if there were any strangers, and I felt glad that I could not discover one. What a disgrace it is to our State and County to have such roads. I believe our Supervisors' ought to have at least two and a half or three dollars per day for warning the hands when to work, and for working with them and collecting the money from every man of property who would not work, and did not pay promptly; and appropriate the money so collected to

improve the roads, make those that do work, work nine hours in the winter and twelve in the summer season.

Keep our tracks out of town only once in ten weeks instead of three times a week, and sometimes six days in the week. Please, one and all try it. It will be the best step toward finding the hidden treasure so much needed.

For your own sake, your wife's and your babies', and friends', if you have any, be very cautious where you make your tracks.

Do not fail to get into bed by seven, and roll out early and attend to your business. There is no morning so dark but you can do something if the will is there. For Heaven's sake, and that of your wife, children, and the State, let us all try it for three years, and if your creditors see you are trying hard, and making tracks in the right place, they will have mercy on you. If they will not, come to OLD JAKE, and if he has it in his power he will help you. Remember you must take his advice all through the piece.

Consult your wife, especially in all cases of difficulty. A wife who deserves the name will never fail to economize when she knows her husband's circumstances require it. Never keep her ignorant of your circumstances, for this has been the undoing of millions of families.

Put cattle on grass half feed, and they will improve as much again in the same time as full fed cattle. I think it much more profitable only to half feed, unless you owe money which you have promised in March or April; then feed heavy. If your circumstances will allow you to do without your money until June or July, I like half feeding the best until the middle of March; then increase gradually, get them to a full feed, turn on your grass early if you have territory enough for your pasture to get good, so that they can get full by walking only a few rods.

I write this to encourage men who get in debt and give up. "Don't give up the ship."

In 1820, in Licking County, Ohio, my corn was higher than my head. On a steep side-hill I saw a flock of wild turkeys scratching very busy in the corn. I married Matilda, John Green's daughter; she lived a few miles north of Utica. My wife's sister, Nancy, was visiting at my house (now Nancy Armstrong, living about fifteen miles southwest of Morris, Ill.) I think she was not more than eight or nine years of age. I showed her the turkeys, and told her if she would pay strict attention to what I said, we could have meat as well as feathers.—She eyed me very close, with eyes and ears ready to catch every word. I showed her where I wanted to get, and told

her we must move very cautious, for they were cunning, sharp-eyed fowls. I went on the hill above them—she went below, and then started towards me. I stood firm, waiting for them as they rose to fly. One flew a foot or so to my left, another about two feet to my right. I first thought of trying to catch both; it struck me at the moment to save one. I sprung up, and with my left hand caught it by one leg; with the right hand I caught it by the breast. I took out a whole handful of skin and feathers, and if it had not been for my hold on the leg, it would have got away. I brought it to the ground, and soon broke its neck, without its thumping me very often with its wings. It made us all the meat we could eat for several days, besides the feathers.

I tell this true story to men who are in debt, to encourage them to never quit trying. I hope none of your cases look more hopeless than mine, in catching the flying wild turkey.

I have since seen the same little girl now grown to be a woman, George W. Armstrong's wife. I asked her if she remembered my catching the turkey; I think she answered forthwith that she always thought of it when she saw a flock of wild turkeys.

No odds how bad your cause is, "don't give up the ship." Patience and perseverance will overcome everything.

If you will take my advice we will find the gold by rolls, rims and wagon-loads, almost countless. Excuse my mistakes I have no time to correct them. I have written this just for the good feeling I have for my country, state and nation. My learning is quite limited. I do not profess to be a grammarian, neither have I ever swallowed a dictionary; and you need not expect me to let it up by leaves.

My parents were plain folks. I was born and raised until I was about seventeen years old, in Somerset County, Turkey Foot Township, near the forks of Youghiogeny, Pa. My father moved to Perry County, Ohio, six miles north of Somerset, Ohio; lived there one year then moved to Licking County, Ohio, thirteen miles north of Newark, the county seat—thirteen miles south of Mt Vernon in Knox County, four miles east of Utica, Licking County. I moved with my wife and three boys to Morgan County, Ill., in the Spring of 1831. I still stay four miles southwest of Jacksonville, which I think is the center of the world, as far as good lands and farms are concerned, and gold coming out of the earth ready-coined in large quantities. If this is not sufficient, when I write again I will tell you part of the rest.

March 5, 1859.

Hungarian Grass—Directions for Sowing.

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER: In a late number of the Farmer, I gave some statements and my opinion in respect to the Hungarian grass as a farm crop. The facts and statements there given are the result of four years' experience in its cultivation. With us it has proved a perfect success. Its cultivation is no longer an experiment, and the result of the last year's crop has rendered it quite popular with the farmers of our neighborhood. As proof of this, I will merely state that we have sold the seed of our entire crop at \$2.00 per bushel at the bin.

As there will be a large crop of it sown the coming season, I will give, for the benefit of those who may read it, some practical directions to guide them in its cultivation.

Select a dry and moderately thin piece of land for your crops; ground that has been in cultivation for a number of years, and is free from weeds, is the best. The plowing should be deferred until the proper time for sowing; then plow thoroughly and level with a harrow; mark off by small furrows into suitable lands for sowing; scatter your seed as evenly as possible at the rate of ten quarts to the acre on thin, or twelve on fresh or strong ground, and cover with a light harrow or brush drag. If sowed thus immediately after the plow, the young grass will get the start of the weeds, and will maintain its ascendancy until maturity.

About the 20th of May is the proper time for sowing, but it will do well as late as the 10th of June. If sowed the 20th of May it will be ready to harvest the last week of August. The proper time for cutting is when the upper or head joint of the plant is of a bright yellow color. If cut too green the seed will not be so good, and the blades, which are large and succulent, will blacken in curing. It may be cut with a cradle or reaper, and secured as we do oats; or it may be mowed and housed as we do timothy. It requires a little more time than timothy to cure, but that is no great objection, as the harvesting comes in at a comparatively leisure time, when farmers can afford to give it a little more attention.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I would just state that the story of the grass having been introduced into this country by a Hungarian exile is all a fiction. In 1854 I received from the patent office, through you, a package of the seed. I have the sack and a small quantity of the imported seed in my possession now. It was imported from France and distributed under the name of "Moha de Hongrie." J. E. YOUNG.

Menard County, March 2d, 1859.

POTATOES IN CALIFORNIA.—From the correspondence of the New York Times: "Speaking of the Colonel, (Col. Warren, editor of the *California Farmer*), he is the most enthusiastic editor we have left. There was a time when every editor in California was "chuck full" and running over with enthusiasm and admiration of this beautiful country, but they have gradually run down, oozed away, run out. As the business became dull, they did likewise, and in these times the Colonel is about the only one left to cry out for us. He records all the won-

derful turn-ups of gold leads or gardens, the beats that beat everything, gives two paragraphs to a big pear, is fruitful in his reflections on the great fruit crop, ready to impeach the testimony of any man or paper that can out Herod him, is never sour but always sweet on the grape question, and holds forth in excellent spirits on the wine growing districts below. The Colonel, as I said before, is our only salvation when we come across any very remarkable production. We call him Vegetable Warren; everybody jokes the Colonel, and everybody likes him—and while on on the subject of potatoes, great and large, I am going to come out and tell the plain truth about that vegetable, and say what I firmly believe, and that is, that we have not had a good sound, well-flavored *pomme de terre* (do let me air my French) in California for two years or more. In early days, when they were new, they grew larger and were better than anywhere; but latterly they have degenerated sadly, and now a good potato is not to be had. Such is the case with many other vegetables—they are no longer good—why or wherefore our scientific savans have not yet been able to determine. I know it's considered "high season" for "a native to the manner (or manor) born" to tell the truth about California when it is "Con.," but it's time *somebody* told the truth in California—it's a little luxury one should be allowed to indulge in occasionally.

How to Raise Early Potatoes.

As I have never seen the plan adopted here, in raising early potatoes, mentioned in any agricultural paper, I herewith give it. About six weeks previous to the usual time of planting in the open ground, mark out a piece, say five or six feet wide, and as long as required, on a dry and sheltered piece of land; dig out the surface to a depth of five or six inches; place boards around to keep up the loam or sand; then fill to the depth of six inches, with horse or some manure which has been thrown over to produce heat; tread it down lightly, as for a hot-bed, and cover the manure with four inches of loam. I keep some in my barn cellar through the winter, where the bed is to be made, with straw or something to keep out the frost. Then pack your potatoes as close as you can, over the surface, a single thickness; cover with four inches of loam, or, what is better, sand, as the sprouts are tougher and do not separate so easily from the potato in lifting. I cut my potatoes a day or even weeks before, and place them cut side down. At night cover with straw or coarse hay; in the morning, if mild, and no rain, rake off the covering and replace at night. In case of continued dry weather a slight watering may be of service, though seldom necessary. When the time for planting arrives, land manured and furrowed, take up the front board, and with a dung-fork lift as many as it will hold; give them a shake, and separate each plant carefully by hand, placing them in a basket or box; then drop them, either for hills or in rows, and have a person to follow to cover as fast as possible, placing an inch or two of earth over the tops, through which they will break in a few hours.

If planting has been delayed from any

cause, and the plants should have attained considerable growth, (I have planted them when a foot high and had them do well), lay them down and cover as above. If your field is not too far from your dwelling, make the bed there, as it saves exposure in carrying the plants to a distance. With a few boards and stakes a shelter can be made to keep off the cold winds.

By sprouting potatoes in this way you can have them ready to dig at least three weeks earlier.

A JAMAICA PLAIN FARMER.

—Country Gentleman.

Northern Trotters, vs. Thoroughbreds.

The following article, evidently from the pen of a discriminating observer, appeared in the *Southern Farmer*, signed "Physician." We agree with the Doctor in the main, yet prize crosses of thorough-bred with trotting stock, especially with our Morgans and Black Hawks, the characteristics of whose breed are so strong that the trotting qualities are not impaired in the stock, are benefitted by taking many of the traits of the thoroughbred.

Among beasts, there is no greater aristocrat than the race-horse; he is no producer, he lives on the fat of the land on the labor of others. The winds of heaven are not allowed to visit him too roughly, and he is unquestionably lord over all brute creation. I am a great admirer of the horse for his beauty, his excellence, his sportiveness, nay, I would say give me the

"Horse, which in frantic fit,
Throws the foam from curb and bit."

but yet I do not desire the race-horse, and why? He is not suited for work, his belly is too small, his legs are too long, and he is rather deficient in size. He is not suited to the saddle. I have seen but very few good saddle horses that were genuine race horses. Their stride is generally too long in the gallop, and as a general thing but few of them pace. For light draught and harness, perhaps they are better adapted; and yet they are inferior in my estimation to the northern trotter. For more than thirty years I have ridden or driven horses daily, and very few men have owned more horses or driven more miles. Now, whilst I admit that good horses may occasionally be found of various forms, yet I have uniformly found the following to be the best characteristics of a good horse. His muscles should be well developed on the thigh; the breast prominent; the shoulders deep and thrown well back; the abdomen round and large; the legs clean; bones flat and large. A horse with small bones is very liable to spavin, splint and wind galls. His rump should be round,

and the juncture between the extremities and the body should be neither too close nor too open. The rump should be a little drooped, that is, a little higher before than behind. There are some excellent horses rather low before; they are frequently strong and suited to draft, but not travelers. A full mane and tail, indicate a strong constitution. A good horse will stand well; if he be unexceptionable he will stand on all four feet, if allowed to remain some time alone, without resting either. If he be a good mover, he will carry one foot immediately after another. Such a horse is apt to be a good traveler; if he be not over fast, he will endure a long time. Some horses, with a powerful effort, throw their feet far beyond their bodies. Such horses may be fast, but are apt to tire. Give me the horse that keeps his feet well under him, shakes his body but little, holds his head up, and raises his feet sufficiently high, not to stumble.

Now I have not so frequently found the characteristics of a good horse to exist in the race-horse as in the northern trotter, and instead of believing that our horses are improved by raising from race-horses, I think our horses would be better for the plow, for the gear and the saddle, by raising from horses of shorter legs, larger bodies, and more compact in form than the race stock.—The latter is better adapted to the turf, but not so well adapted to ordinary purposes. We need a horse of power, of endurance, of good performance, and not a horse remarkable only for his swiftness. Many horses are active, sportive and easily kept, and yet unmixed with the race-horse. I have seen some very superior and excellent Canadians. The Morgan horse and northern trotter are worthy of all praise. Some of the most inferior geldings I have ever owned were said to be of the race stock. Their fine and glossy hair, long legs, lank and gaunt abdomen, seems to indicate their descent from a race of *illustrious ancestors*. These views, I know, are in opposition to the current opinion of the day, but facts are stubborn realities that cannot be easily controverted; and my opinion is based upon my own observation and experience—an experience based upon daily use for more than thirty years. And when I desire to purchase a horse, to recommend him as of the race stock is rather an objection to me. I am fully satisfied that the race stock has been a source of injury to the horses of Virginia, for such horses as we need for work, for the saddle or for harness. Some people read and take it for granted; others weigh and consider. Some adopt opinions that their fathers entertained; others think for themselves and form opinions accordingly."

Draining Prevents "Heaving Out"

Among other evils incident to undrained soils, is the liability to heave or freeze out the crops sown thereon, so that it is difficult, if not impossible, to grow winter grain or clover profitably though the soil otherwise is well suited to their production. A case coming under our observation the past winter, will well illustrate the subject. A field of five acres, seeded to clover two years ago upon rye, owing in part to the presence of snow upon the ground the greater part of the first winter and spring, escaped with slight injury from this cause, and gave a very good growth of clover. But the past winter, the weather being of a different character, the grass on about three acres of the field was entirely destroyed, every root of clover, being pulled up or thrown out, laid loose upon the surface of the ground the present spring. This was an example of "heaving out" of unmistakable character.

The cause and process of freezing out has been explained as follows: "The soil is pulverised only to the depth of the plow, some six or eight inches. Below this is stratum of clay (or hard-pan) nearly impervious to water. The autumn rains (and melting snows in spring) saturate the surface soil, which absorbs water like a sponge. The ground is suddenly frozen; the water contained in it crystalizes into ice, and the soil is thrown up into spicules or honey-combs, and the poor clover roots or wheat plants are drawn from their beds, and, by a few repetitions of the process, left dead upon the field in spring."

The evil lies in a saturated soil. It matters little whether the surface be clay or sandy—it did not in the case above mentioned—if the subsoil is of an impervious character. We were much surprised to find in a slight depression, some three or four rods across, where the surface soil was a light sand, that the clover was as badly winter-killed as on the clayey part of the field. And the clayey part, it is well to mention, had good surface-drainage from the descent or slope of the ground—at least an inch in a foot. This sandy corner was underlaid by an impervious hard-pan, holding water equally as well as the clay; and we believe this will generally be found to be the case in all loams which suffer from heaving or freezing out.

We have shown in a previous article, that "draining deepens the soil," and hence it is the remedy for freezing out in all cases. Water no longer saturates

the surface soil in such quantity as to form honey-comb ice every time it freezes; the plants are no longer confined to short roots, but have a better hold upon the soil, and it has been found that no loss whatever results from this cause, however unfavorable the season, on a thoroughly drained soil.

A little testimony on this point may not be out of place here. Maxwell Brothers of Geneva, tell us, in the Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society for 1855, about draining a clay field which previously could not be worked for spring crops in season for sowing, and *heaved so badly as to ruin winter crops*, which draining has rendered as mellow and productive as can be desired, so that they can cultivate immediately after heavy rains, and grow wheat and clover without loss from frost. John Johnston of Seneca county, has given pointed evidence on the subject, both in our own columns and in other publications. By draining he has so improved his clayey farm that no loss is suffered from this cause, though formerly it was a source of great injury to the crops in the low lands, entirely ruining wheat, and destroying it in many places upon the higher parts of the farm. Many like cases of the beneficial results of draining in this respect could be given were it needful, to our readers.

Detection of Horse Thieves.

FREEDOM, March 12, 1859.

Mr. FRANCIS:—In view of the increasing amount of horse stealing, I have been thinking for some time about a practicable method (to be adopted by the masses, especially the Agricultural portion of men,) in order to check these depredations. And it appears to me that my project (although it may not be new) might be made to pay well, both to the patron and the publisher, which is simply this; that some publisher of an Agricultural journal, attach to his periodical a stolen horse detector, the list to briefly state the owners name; the Post Office address, minute description of the animal, the time stolen and the reward, &c., &c. Which notice should stand for a given time, say three or six months, the owner of the animal advertised to pay a fixed amount of money for said insertion, or in his getting a certain amount of paying subscribers as compensation.

The objects are these, to deter thieves from stealing, and to enable the owners of stolen horses to recover their property, and further to enable officers and other individuals that are anxious to detect thieves, and protect innocent persons from being imposed upon in the way of purchasing. You may say, how can such an argument effect any thing? Simply in this way, when a horse ap-

peared or is offered for sale by a stranger or other individual under suspicious circumstances, the purchaser or casual observer could refer to the list and if in it the animal is then described, &c., it might lead to the detection of a thief and help the owner of the animal to recover his property; and more than that it would deter thieving. There has been many horses stolen in our county the past year, very few of which have been recovered or the thieves detected; and there have been quite a large number of strange horses sold, under circumstances that created much suspicion, so much so as to induce some individuals to put forth efforts to trace out the whereabouts said horses were obtained—no doubt stolen in some remote section and run here for sale.

I have mentioned the project to many individuals, all of whom speak favorably. What think you? Would it not be an inducement to individuals to subscribe, that would not if the list was not in? All the trouble would be to get it established. I see no difficulty in describing a horse minutely and as briefly, as a bank note. The people of our locality are alive in interest, in organizing Societies, the object of which is to detect horse thieves, and if they accomplish the object sought after, our Penitentiary will soon be overrun, if there is as much complaint in other counties through the State as in this. But the measure I propose would not cause any increase of detections, but probably would deter criminals, or cause them to seek other fields of operation. Yet that does not remedy the rule. We want the means of detecting them, let them operate where they may, or in other words, we want a Detector, or Detectors, extensive enough so that whenever they may appear, with those stolen horses they would be in the midst of numerous tell-tales, in the shape of detectives.

Some individuals manifest much interest to expel a thief from a community where he is known to be a stranger, and among strangers. I think it is wrong for when we know a man to be a thief, we can watch him, and keep him under restraint, but when we drive him among strangers, he is free from restraint, and is induced to steal, from a thievish disposition. Consequently we do the stranger an injury, and the individual a greater injury.

JOHN H. HOSFORD.

A year or more ago Mr. Pollard Simmons, of Mason County, got up a prospectus for a paper similar to that recommended by Mr. Hosford. It was to be published semi-monthly at a low price, and one copy of each number was to be sent to the Sheriff of each County.

The project fell through for want of subscribers. Few persons seem to realize the importance of such a paper, until they have some animal stolen.

The plan of Mr. Hosford is a good one and so was that of Mr. Simmons.

The Vineyards of the Rhine.

The *Scottish Quarterly Journal of Agriculture* contains an interesting article on "Rhenish Wine and Rhineland," a few extracts from which we think will be acceptable to the readers of the Farmer.

The writer visited the most celebrated vineyards on the Rhine, in 1855, and again in the summer of 1857. In 1855, the crop was almost a universal failure, owing to the late frosts in April destroying the fruit-bearing shoots of the vine; while in 1857 the vines were loaded with an exuberance of fully ripened fruit. In 1855, search had to be made among the luxuriant green leaves for a bunch of grapes, and, when found, the fruit proved diminutive and unripe. In 1857, on the other hand, bunch was suspended over and beside bunch in such profusion that surprise was excited that so small a plant as the pruned vine was able to bear so large a quantity of fruit as far to outweigh the weight of the plant itself, and which it could not have done without ample support. Everywhere the grape was presented to the tourist, in inviting bunches of red and white, at the low cost of six kreutzers (four cents) the bunch. The writer states that he ate grapes grown in the open air on the banks of Lake Como "of much finer fragrance than from any vinery in the United Kingdom."

"In every respect the vine is a remarkable plant. No one could anticipate, on first seeing a vine-plant without leaves, that its dry, withered, wiry stem, could produce, elegantly-formed expansive leaves and beautiful bunches of fruit of large size and weight, suspended as they are from the most frail-looking tendrils; but, notwithstanding its shrivelled aspect the vine is a plant exceedingly susceptible of external influences. Color, size, form, taste, aroma, productiveness, vary in a remarkable degree with a change of soil, position, and temperature. It is, therefore, no matter of surprise that the grapes of the sunny side of Johannisberg should be very superior in flavor to those of the north facing slopes on the opposite bank of the Rhine."

The practice of concealing the bunches of grapes from the direct rays of the sun, behind screens formed of growing leaves, and at the same time leaving them open to light, was quite common. The direct rays of the sun foster by their heat the acid principle of the grapes by

increasing the amount of tartaric acid; and it does so more decidedly in the red than the white grape, because the dark color absorbs the heat more readily; while the *light* of the sun, passing easily through the white skin, involves the saccharine principle in the white grape in a greater degree than in the red, and thus brings each kind ripe nearer at the same time—an important point in wine making. Protection from the direct rays of the sun also improves the flavor of the fruit.

Fetid manures exercise a very prejudicial influence on the odor of the wine; while such as are inodorous and decay slowly, such as wool, horn, and bone-black, conduce very much to enhance its fragrance.

"The leaves of the vine, which contain a considerable quantity of alkali, constitute an excellent manure for the plant. At the vintage, only the fruit is removed from the vineyard; and when the leaves fall to the ground, their constituents necessarily compose the best manure for future vine leaves. Only in this manner can the fact be explained that the vine requires little inorganic manure, and often contents itself with substances which it obtains principally from the weather-beaten rocks on whose slopes it is planted."

We believe it is now conceded that grape vines are not particularly benefited by the application of inorganic manures such as potash, soda, etc. It is only one of many facts going to show that the composition of any particular plant is no certain indication of the kind of manure most needed for its growth. Potash enters largely into the composition of the wood, leaves, and fruit of the grape; and therefore it has been supposed that its cultivation would soon exhaust the soil of potash. But while it is true that nearly one half of the ash of the entire grape vine is potash, yet the growth of grapes does not remove from an acre of soil so much potash as many of our farm crops. Potatoes, turnips, etc., remove nearly double the quantity that grapes do, and yet even these plants are not particularly benefited by the application of potash as a manure. Manures rich in ammonia and phosphoric acid appear to be best suited for the growth of grapes.

"The full ripening of the fruit by the action of the sun is of the greatest importance in order to secure good wine. On this account the vines are not allowed to grow high, but the nearer they are kept to the ground the better, in order that the heat of the sun may be reflected back upon them from the ground, and the process of ripening is then carried through the evenings and nights by the warmth which is radiated from the earth. The vines are not kept short to obtain a greater quantity of grape juice, for those

which are allowed to grow six feet and upward yield a larger quantity of juice, but their wine is worse than from the short vines in the same place."

THE AGRICULTURE OF THE RHINELAND says the same writer, has improved amazingly of late.

"A few years ago, the land was generally in a very foul state with weeds; now it is much cleaner, and now also the manure is applied in large quantities.—The manure is all from the farm-yard, the stock being constantly kept in the homestead. The crops are mostly of rye and oats, the rye affording the ordinary food to the population, and the oats to both man and beast. Wheat is now raised in increasing quantities, and so is barley. Red clover is cultivated with success as a forage plant. The peculiar crops are mangel wurzel, kohlrabi, scarlet clover, and Indian corn, all of which grow luxuriantly. Potatoes are largely cultivated, and ruta бага may frequently be seen. But the most striking feature in the change of Rhineland agriculture is the great extension of the cultivation of fruit trees. These are not planted in masses like our orchards, but along the highways, and at stated distances in rows in the cultivated land. The ordinary fruits cultivated are apples and pears, both for eating, though the old apple trees had been planted for the purpose of making cider. Cherry trees are common, and so are walnut; but the increasing culture in fruit is in plums, and of these the *Mirabelle* seems the favorite. This is a small, somewhat oblong, yellow-colored plum, sweet to the taste, and capable of being eaten ripe, or preserved for compotes. The trees are pruned so as to allow the plowing under the lowest trenches. A new orchard of *Mirabelle* plums, consisting of five thousand trees, has lately been planted in the neighborhood of Kronthal; and on surveying the country from the heights, it is fast being covered over with fruit trees, which in addition to the forests which are raised for fuel, will ere long give it a wooded aspect.

SORGHUM CONVENTION.—The Waverly (Iowa) *Republican* says that a convention of agricultural societies, and of all persons who are interested in the planting and cultivating of the Chinese sugar cane and the manufacture of sugar and molasses therefrom, is called by order of the Bremen Country Agricultural Society, to meet at Waverly on the third day of March, and continue as long as it may be interesting. There will be a general discussion of the best mode of planting, cultivating and manufacturing sugar and molasses, and for a free interchange of views on this important branch of agriculture. Specimens of syrup and sugar of last season's crop, with mode of manufacture, are called for.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, APRIL 1, 1859.

The State Fair.

President Ellsworth, and Cor. Sec. Francis, of the State Agricultural Society recently visited Freeport, for the purpose of selecting grounds, and making other arrangements for the next State Fair. They were highly gratified with the manner in which they were received by the Committee of Freeport, and the evident disposition manifested by them to do all in their power to further their wishes. The belief is unqualifiedly expressed that accommodations will be furnished for boarding and lodging to all persons who may attend the Fair.

All the grounds suggested were examined with a view to the location; and finally, lands were selected on the south of the city, including the County Fair grounds, (a portion of them within the city limits,) and which can be made most beautiful and convenient for the great exhibition. They are located within less than a half mile of the business part of the city, and about the same distance from the depots of the Illinois Central, and Galena and Chicago Railroads.

The contracts for putting the grounds in order, erecting the fences and buildings, and other fixtures, were to be given out on Saturday 12th. It is supposed that subscriptions entirely sufficient have been obtained to pay all the expenses for material and work. The grounds to be inclosed will include some forty acres; and it is anticipated, that when the work is done, they will present as handsome an appearance as grounds occupied by the Society at any of the previous fairs.

We trust that our friends in the different counties in the neighborhood of the Fair, will labor to secure at the exhibition specimens of the agricultural wealth of the country. We desire to see farm products in the greatest abundance and excellence. We want our farmers to be there with the best stock of the country. In the neighborhood of the manufacture of all the superior agricultural implements of the day, we want not only to gratify ourselves with a rare display of them, but to astonish the citizens of other States with the exhibition of these

articles—the production of the genius of our mechanics, which cannot be excelled at any point in the States. We want to see the fruits of the country in excellence and profusion. We want the ladies should fill the hall for textile fabrics with the rich productions of their fairy fingers. We want them, too, to be on hand with their condiments, their wines, their canned and preserved fruits, and the long list of articles in their department which will be noticed in the premium list soon to be printed and scattered over the State. We believe that the fair has been located where our artists can display, to the advantage of themselves, and make their exhibition a distinguishing feature of the Fair, with the productions of their taste and skill. We learn that a hall especially designed for the exhibition of paintings, drawings, &c., will be provided and got up in a manner that will satisfy the most fastidious. We desire to see the Natural History Department well filled. The premiums in this department should bring out a good exhibition, even if there was not the higher motive of exhibiting at our annual fair specimens of the mineral wealth of our State and other illustrations of its Natural History.

The grounds to be inclosed will be sufficient to make the test of agricultural implements, and especially of our common plows and the “steam plows,” which are expected to be on exhibition. We shall be disappointed if six steam plows are not present. We have information that the proprietors of six steam plows design to be at Freeport with their machines. Such an exhibition of itself ought to draw together a hundred thousand of our people, to witness the genius of man controlling the power of steam and making it subservient to his will, in doing the ordinary business of the farm. It will be a sight wonderful indeed—one of the greatest achievements of the human mind in modern days, and which we hope to witness at the State Fair in Freeport.


The “Connecticut Grape Growers’ Association,” have ascertained that last year about 3,000 gallons of Grape Wine were made in that State, and mostly from the native grapes. The best wine was that to which no sugar was added. Catawba and Isabella, have failed in that State, but strong hopes are entertained that the cultivation of the Diana, Hartford, Prolific, Concord, Rebecca and Delaware, will prove successful.

To County Agricultural Societies.

The County Agricultural Societies of this State, will learn with regret, that the bill which passed the Senate, for continuing the yearly appropriation of one hundred dollars to the county Societies, has failed to become a law, having been left with the unfinished business of the House of Representatives. It is feared that the failure of this appropriation will be disastrous, perhaps fatal, to some few of the more feeble county Societies that are with difficulty struggling into existence. It is believed that the Legislature was entirely favorable to the passage of this bill, and that it will become a law as soon as an opportunity for further legislative action is secured.

S. FRANCIS, Cor. Sec.

State Ag. Society.

 Publishers of papers in Illinois, are desired to publish this notice.

THE EGYPTIAN PIONEER.—This paper is published at Ewington, in this State. It has an “Industrial Department,” which is conducted by Mr. Mathews, who resides near Mason, on the Chicago Branch of the Central road. In the paper of the 10th, under this “Industrial” head, we find several good articles. One of them is on the subject of farm gates. He says that any man who has the skill to cut off a pig’s head can make a farm gate. All that is wanted is that they shall be strong, and moving clear of the ground. He constructed gates out of oak plank nearly an inch through, four to six inches broad, and ten feet long. The only tools he had was an old handsaw and a hatchet. Two pounds of nails were used to each gate. Hinges worth forty cents to a dollar apiece. Posts eighteen inches in diameter and ten feet long, make just as good posts as any other. No necessity of hewing them. Dig the post-holes four feet deep, and if properly rammed will not lean, but will remain perpendicular until rotten. A gate properly made and hung will last twenty years.

The *Pioneer* denounces the “Honey Blade Humbug.” This project of swindling farmers will succeed to some extent with those farmers who do not take agricultural newspapers. This honey blade grass is only another name for the Hungarian grass.

The peach crop is not destroyed in Effingham county. Mr. Mathews says his trees, planted fifteen years ago, have borne every year large enough, with the exception of one year. He recommends the country about him to persons who desire to go into the business of raising peaches.

The wheat that was properly put in looks well. That which was drilled in is looking best.

Shade Trees.

Every spring we see large trees, brought from the timber, for planting out as shade trees, with roots cut off within a foot of their bodies, and without any fibrous roots. People buy them, pay large prices for them, and thirty-nine out of forty die; as every sensible man knew they would, and as they ought to die. Every spring this same scene is re-enacted, and we suppose it will continue while the world stands. Men learn little from experience.

The same has been the practice with evergreens. What is there now to show for the loads of evergreens which have been brought to Springfield from the forests and sold here? If any exist, they have a hard time in doing so. And yet if another load of evergreens were to be brought here, with the huckleberry roots about them, they would still be bought. Men would make another trial. They would take these trees, grown in sand, and plant them out in black prairie soil, where the water will stand about the roots, and have the folly to expect them to live.

If our people want beautiful deciduous shade trees, they must grow them from the seed, or purchase them from nurseries where they have been grown from seed. Then they will have trees that will grow rapidly, and make shade and beauty.

If they wish evergreens, there must come from nurseries where they have been transplanted twice, and have many fibrous roots; and then taken up carefully.

A Word in Time.

Next August and September our farmers will want corn to feed their horses, and to fatten their hogs early for market. Our ordinary corn will not be ripe in those months. Now, what is to be done? Just this: Get seed of the King Philip corn, or some other early variety, and plant it when you plant your general crop. You can then have ripe corn to feed out in August and September.

But you say, probably, "This is small corn and won't produce well." Now, there have been as many bushels of shelled corn raised to an acre of this King Philip corn in New Hampshire, as have ever been raised of the large corn in this country. It requires different cultivation. The rows should be three feet apart, and the hills eighteen inches, with four stalks in a hill.

That farmer who provides himself with an early corn crop—that he can feed out in August and September—will find it a source of profit and pleasure. He can do this, if he chooses to do it. We know some farmers who have been in this practice for several years, and will not be likely to abandon it.

County Agricultural Societies.

The 8th annual fair of the Fulton County Agricultural Society will be held on its fair grounds, near Lewiston, on the 5th and 6th days of October next. Our premium list is greatly enlarged, particularly in cattle and sheep. The citizens of the State are invited to compete for the premiums.

LEONARD L. ROSS, Sec'y.

Bureau County Society will hold their next fair on the 20th, 21st, 22d and 23d September next. The Officers are—H. C. Fields, President; J. M. Dexter, I. P. Evans, Vice-Presidents; E. S. Phelps, Corresponding Secretary; R. T. Templeton, Treasurer.

Clark County Agricultural Society—officers for 1859—Wm. G. Stephens, President; John L. Purcells, Vice-President; O. G. Stephens, Secretary.

Sangamon County Agricultural Society fair will commence on the 12th day of September and continue five days. Its officers for 1859 are—J. N. Brown, President; J. Cook and A. B. McConnell, Vice-Presidents; S. M. Parsons, Treasurer, and S. Francis, Secretary.

Officers of Champaign County Agricultural Society—A. C. Cande, President; F. L. Scott, Vice-President; H. C. Stewart, Treasurer, and Wm. Webber, Jr., Secretary.

UPLAND RICE.—Mr. A. Conner, of Carbondale, has sent us a package of Upland Rice, raised by himself the last season. It is not hulled, and resembles barley. The kernels are of good size and doubtless would cook as well as the rice of South Carolina. It can be grown in this latitude. Prof. Russell, of Bluffdale, having succeeded in raising a good article last year. In regard to its culture, Mr. Conner, says: "Prepare your ground well before planting. Any rich or new ground will do, if you make it loose and mellow. Then throw up small ridges, say three or four inches high, about eighteen inches broad; then make two drills on the ridge one foot apart and one or two inches in depth.— Sow the seed in the drills about the last of it put in the first of May—the seed to be three or four inches apart in the drills—cover up one inch deep. When it first comes up, it will be very tender and will grow slow for some time and until it begins to branch out. You must keep it clean from weeds or grass. This you can do by hoeing between the drills, and as it grows draw a little fine earth to the plants—every time you work the ground.

If the ground should bake, loosen it up, and when the heads begin to shoot up the rice plants needs no more cultivation."

Should the seed of the Upland Rice, fall into the hands of any one of our readers, the above process of cultivation may be found useful.

The prospect seems to be at this writing that we shall have a pleasant spring. Gardeners should now lose no time in planting the seed of peas, potatoes, beets, carrots, parsnips, spinach, radishes, lettuce, and salsify. Asparagus and rhubarb roots should be set out. No garden should be without beds of these. The Highbrid Scotch Rhubarb is one of the most reliable varieties—hardy, fine flavor, and produces well. About the middle of this month celery may be sown. Those desiring to obtain spring turnips should sow them on rich ground and very early, so that the bottoms may swell before hot weather.

Ladies save themselves much labor by planting out perennial herbaceous flowering plants. The peonies, lillies, phloxes, larkspurs, penstemons, are all hardy, and all that is necessary for their cultivation is to divide the plants every three or four years, as the handsomest flowers come from new plants. It is now time to sow hardy annuals—larkspurs, phlox, coreopsis, scarlet cecilia, escholtzia, candy tuft, and some others. The seeds of tender annuals should not be sown until May.

The Agricultural Society of Union county, has invited the Horticultural Society of Southern Illinois, to hold their first fair and exhibition in the city of Jonesboro' on the last Tuesday, in the month of May next. If this invitation should be accepted, we have no doubt that there will be a most interesting exhibition at Jonesborough.

Strawberry cultivators are aiming to obtain a fine perpetual Strawberry. The Alpine Strawberries are perpetual, but they yield little fruit. It is believed that by hybridizing properly the great object will be obtained. The French have already obtained varieties that will produce for four months.

Box Edgings, for borders of walks, will not stand in our prairie soils. They die off by degrees until all are gone. We apprehend, however, if the soil is mixed with two thirds sand the plants might be made to live, especially if they are covered with straw through the winter.

A Lesson Which Ought not to be Forgotten.

We hear from all around us of large numbers of Cattle dying and dead of starvation. Not sufficient food was provided for them last season. What would have been the condition of many of our farmers had the fall, winter and spring seasons, been of the usual severity? It is a recorded fact that in some cases horses have lived in blue grass all winter, sheep were not required to be fed until 10th of January, and, cattle have not required, by any means, the usual quantity of feed.

Are we not to blame for the state of things presented on some of our farms and on our prairies? Skins of cattle hung on pens, and sheds, and skeletons about on prairies, poisoning the atmosphere.

When our great staple crop of corn was known to have failed last summer, there was time enough remaining of the season to have made large crops of corn fodder. Corn sown broadcast and lightly plowed in and the land rolled, would have yielded large crops of fodder, with little cost, that would have saved the lives of thousands of head of stock.

This practice of raising stock to starve them to death, because we fail in making a crop of corn, is as unnecessary as it is brutal.


ROCHESTER TREES.—M. L. Dunlap, of Champaign County, has a fine Nursery, some four miles South of Urbana and which shows beautifully on the West side of the Central Rail Road. He has a large supply of fruit trees of his own growing for sale, and will also sell at low prices, Rochester trees, to all who may want them. Of course no sensible man will prefer trees grown in Rochester to those grown in our own climate and soil.

SPIRAES.—These beautiful shrubs have lately been introduced to notice. They generally grow some four feet high, have handsome foliage, and beautiful flowers. *Sprael Prunifolia* has small, double, white flowers, with which the plant is completely covered. The *Ulmifolia*, has clusters of white flowers, somewhat resembling those of the Cherry. *St. Peter's Wreath* in flower, is white as a snow drift. There are numerous others, all beautiful.

Hedging for Open Prairies.


We like an article on this subject in the *Chicago Press and Tribune*, written by Hon. L. Dunlap, in reply to a correspondent. He says that the land for hedges should be dry and rolling; it should be well prepared for receiving the plants; these plants should be two years old; should be planted six inches apart, and should be suffered to grow without being cut back or trimming. Hedges thus planted will grow up some fifteen or twenty feet, and will be a perfect protection against stock, and will also break the prairie winds to some extent.


If the hedges are to be cut back, we have been in favor of setting the plants three or four inches apart; but if they are suffered to grow, they will make small trees, and should have more distance.

 **Premium Lists for the State Fair for 1859**, will be ready for distribution by the 10th of April. They will be sent to the Presidents and officers of all the county Agricultural Societies in the State; all the Agricultural and other papers; all the Post-Masters. Persons desiring copies for themselves or for distribution will please send their orders to the undersigned.


S. FRANCIS, Cor. Sec.
State Ag. Society.

Springfield, March 29, 1859.

 All papers in Illinois are requested to publish the above, and send to the "Illinois Farmer, Springfield," one copy each of their respective papers.

 It is a great mistake to suppose that deciduous trees should be planted out as soon as frost is out of the ground. They do best when the ground has become dry, and something warm—in the condition suited to the planting of corn.—Evergreens should be the last trees planted out.

Ladies will be careful not to uncover the plants they have protected until the Middle of this month. To expose them to a sudden freeze, and afterwards to a hot sun, will be sure to kill them.

 Our correspondents for the past month seem to have been busy with their farm work. All right. Now is the time to commence work for the season. Prospects are fair for good crops. We shall be glad to hear from correspondents as they have leisure to write.

Who Wants a Fine Currant Bush.

You may have one, or as many as you like, in this way. Find out who has some Red Dutch or White Dutch Currants: they are much better than the common red and white currants. Go to them and ask for a few cuttings, or go to a nursery and buy a few, and, if you take a fancy to some other kinds, for instance, to some of those fine new kinds several of which every good nurseryman ought to have, such as the White Grape White Transparent, Fertile of Pallua, Cherry, and others. When you have the cuttings, (they should be about a foot long), take a sharp knife, and cut all the buds out from more than half the lower part, taking care not to tear the bark, nor cut any more than just enough to take the buds out; then put them away wrapped in paper, and buried in some earth in the cellar till early spring. As soon as earth is mellow set them out. They may be simply stuck up in the mellow soil, after it is spaded, and the weeds and grass roots all taken out, and the earth pressed close about them. The first bud should be two or three inches above the soil, and there should be no bud below. Thus each cutting will grow to fine little tree, and no suckers will come from the root. Next year they will bear fruit.

Draining Improves the Quality of Crops

That the productive power of the soil is largely increased by draining in cases of retentive lands, has often been noticed; few, however, have remarked upon the improvement in the quality of the crop effected by the same process. Mr. French, in his essay on drainage, gives a brief paragraph on the subject, so pertinent and conclusive that we copy it here. "In a dry season," he says, "we frequently hear the farmer boast of the quality of his products. His hay crop is light, but will 'spend' much better than the crop of a wet season—his potatoes are not large, but they are sound and mealy,"—and so of other crops. "Every farmer knows that his wheat and corn are heavier and more nutritive where grown upon land sufficiently drained."

The deepened soil in which manures have their full effect—the season not shortened at both ends by the presence of stagnant water in the soil—the mellow, porous seed or root-bed, not affected by draught or freezing out, all resulting from drainage, readily account for the improved quantity and quality of the crop, whether it be grain or fruit, roots or grass, or whatever it may be desirable to cultivate in the best manner.

Noble Premiums.

The Mass. Society for Promotion of Agriculture offers two premiums of extraordinary liberality.

FOR THE BEST PLANTATION OF FOREST TREES, \$1000.—"The above sum is offered for the best plantation of trees, of any kind commonly used for, and adapted to, ship building, grown from seed planted for the purpose, or otherwise, on not less than five acres of land, one white oak, at least, to be planted to every twenty square yards. Notice in writing must be given to the Secretary of the Society, on or before January 1, 1860, of the intention to compete for the premium, stating where the land is situated the nature of the soil, and what has been done in relation to the plantation up to the time of giving notice. The premium will be awarded in 1870, in case the success of any competitor has been such as, in the opinion of the Trustees, or of those appointed by them to adjudge the same, or give a reasonable probability that the plantation will produce eventually a fair supply of ship timber, in proportion to the number of acres planted. The Society likewise claims the right, after awarding the premium, to designate from time to time what trees shall be reserved for timber, and the successful competitor shall give security that the trees so designated shall not be cut for any other purpose."

PREMIUM FOR THE BEST FARM.—The Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, in their Annual Report for 1858, offer the liberal premium of \$500 for the best conducted farm in Massachusetts, of not less than forty acres, taking into consideration the mode of cultivation, farm buildings, breeding, selection and keeping of stock. Farms devoted to market gardening will not be admitted to competition. The trustees reserve the right of withholding the premium, in case no farm offered shall be considered worthy, and also of dividing it, in case no one farm shall be considered decidedly the best conducted. Notice of intention to compete for the premium must be given to the Secretary of the Society, on or before the first day of April, 1859, accompanied by an entrance fee of \$10. A written statement, verified by oath of the competitor, will be required, containing an accurate statement of the farm, with an account in figures showing the results of the year's operations. To commence on the first day of April, 1859, and to terminate on the thirty first day of March following. All farms entered for the premium shall be subject to the visits and inspection of the Trustees, or by others appointed by them for the purpose. No Trustee or officer of the Society will be allowed to compete.

Draining on the Prairie.

There are many truths in the following article:

While upon the subject of the weather and particularly wet weather, I wish to confess my entire conversion to the doctrines of the advocates of *thorough drainage*—I mean as a grand national measure, called for and demanded by the nature of soil and the extreme humidity of our climate, referring especially to the season for farming operations. I have read everything that has fallen in my way for several years on this subject but while admitting its application to several localities, have been skeptical as to its general value. Observation, connected with the digging of a cellar on ground supposed to be as dry as land "ever gets to be," has opened my eyes, and I now firmly believe that the time is not far distant when "thorough drainage" will be considered the "sheet anchor" of western agriculture. Our lands are rich enough, but in a country where sixteen inches of water can fall in a single month, and "not half try," we need special appliances for getting rid of the surplus. *This excessive wet, lies at the bottom of the almost total failure of crops every two or three years, which is sure to befall the country.* Here we are to-day in the heart of the richest farming country in the Union, and yet starvation prices for the common necessities of life, before the next harvest, are boldly staring us in the face. If our lands are drained and farmers prepared for wet weather, these things would not be so. *Fruit growing will never succeed here on undrained land.* Fruitmen will please stick a pin there. Its as true as holy writ. We greatly need a Tile manufactory, somewhere along the river. I know of none in the river towns. Can't some of your enterprising men come out and start the business? It's sure to be established, and the man who first sets the ball in motion, will deserve a higher place in the hearts of the people of this valley, than all the miserable demagogues who now disgrace them in the halls of National Legislation. The first demand for tile would be for gardens and orchards. The transition to the farming fields would be natural and easy, and the final demand far exceed the demand for building brick. This country must and will be drained. Who will be the pioneer in this work?

I had intended to have put in a few words about farm gates in general, and that one figured in a few numbers back in particular, but as my sheet is full, will stop by asking you to say to that man with the tall heel post and long brace running down to the foot of the head post, that if he will cut down that post to the height of the other, and turn his brace the other end up, and then bolt it

with small carriage bolts, costing about three cents each, to each of the rails, he will have a genuine self-supporting gate and not otherwise.—HAWK EYE.—Keokuk, Iowa.—County Gent.

Who Wants a Grape Vine?

Boys, do you want to sit under the shade of your own vine and eat the fruit of it before you are three years older? If so, get some grape-cuttings either now or before the sap starts. Your father or elder brother will get them for you, and do you keep them buried in the earth in the cellar where they will not freeze, till warm, pleasant gardening weather in May, then you can set them out, and they will each, or most of them, form a grape vine. Select the best kind, such as the Diana, Hartford Prolific or Concord, if you can get these kinds, otherwise take the Isabella. This last named grape is not sure to ripen in the northern parts of this State, except in very warm exposures, and there are kinds of Isabellas which ripen earlier than others, so select these to get cuttings from. There is not a boy or girl either who reads and understands this, who may not raise this summer from the cuttings obtained at this season several fine grape vines.—Selected.

ORCHARDS.—Drainage is an indispensable necessity to thrift with young orchards. If Nature does the work—well; if not she must be helped. In setting out trees do not dig too small holes, and putting a little hot manure in the bottom set the trees upon it. Men who have been in the habit of setting trees with no manure except a few sods thrown into the bottom of the pit, think they do admirably well for their young trees if they give them a heap of horse or cow-yard manure to luxuriate in. It is a great mistake. All varieties of fruit trees need soil rather than manure yet a good compost is essential as a sort of home bank of deposit, to be drawn upon for whatever the soil may lack.—We prefer to dig holes at least four feet wide; but a compost of muck, leaf-mould yard-scrappings, bone dust, ashes, leather scraps, etc., which has no heat in it; add to such a compost about half a peck of slacked lime, and throw on a layer of earth upon it. Spread the roots so as to lead out in every direction, and fill in three or four inches of fine soil, not yellow dirt, and tread it down upon the roots; then fill up. The roots should spread naturally from the crown, which should be, if an apple tree, two inches below the general level of the ground in a slight depression; if a dwarf pear set the junction of the stock and graft two inches below the ground. When set, throw around the trees a mulch of coarse grass, straw, tanbark, or something of the kind.

A friend writes us that he wants to purchase 1000 sheep, with a view to driving them to Texas.

Spring Business

We notice that some of the papers are predicting a flourishing spring business? What is to make a flourishing spring business? It is the selling of goods in a country already drained of money, for goods, and indebted for them to an amount of thousands upon thousands which cannot be paid? That will not make a flourishing business.

A flourishing business which we desire is, to see our farmers preparing their grounds well, and putting in the seed of oats and barley and spring wheat—and then again planting their corn and potatoes—increasing their stock—and working with a will to make fine crops, by which to pay their debts, and which will pay the debts of merchants to their creditors. That is the business we wish to see: and it behooves every farmer to do his best to transact this “flourishing business.”

Many of these debts might have been avoided. They never need to have been contracted. We have been too extravagant. We have not practiced economy. The great prices of produce led us into this evil way. It is too late to retreat. The only means we have now to remedy the past is to earn money and pay our debts, and have a care for the future.

Yes—have a care for the future. Live as far as possible on the produce of the farm. Is any man, woman, or child, healthier for swilling down a half dozen cups of strong coffee a day, or of tea—or by depending on the groceries of the towns for family food which should be raised on the farm? Too much of this thing has been done—too much—too much.

Yes—we repeat, have a care for the future! Wear the old clothes a little longer! Trim up the last year's bonnet! Give a new touch to the old dress! Use milk instead of coffee! In some cases, pure cold water is better than either! Practice in this way and make every turn you can—and in a short time, shorter than you now think, you will come out “right side up, *with care!*”

This is plain talk, you say. Well it is: It is better for that. And if it touches the case of the reader, (we are sorry if that should be so) it will not hurt him. He has committed no crime—only an imprudence—and if in the

experience he now has he continues honest, an honorable man, it will be the better for him in coming time. He has only to make every effort in his power—earn all he can—save all he can—pay all he can—and he will get along well in the long run.

We go in for a flourishing business—not the selling of gew-gaws to farmers—but the flourishing business, driving a head the plow, the drill, economy in the house—in the making of butter, cheese—in the bringing of gold out of mother earth, which generally yields to every one who will properly cultivate her bosom.

Here you have it, reader. We have had our say. You understand what we think of “flourishing business”—such as you need, and the country needs.

GOOSEBERRIES.—For several years it was supposed that gooseberries would always mildew in our climate. In the early settlement of Sangamon county, an English Gooseberry was brought here that did mildew. It gave a bad character to the whole race. It was fortunate that other trials were made with different varieties and we now find that we can raise gooseberries equal to any country in the world. The largest gooseberries are not the best. Houghton's Seedling, though smaller, is better fruit, and the bushes produce enormous quantities. The fruit is good enough.

SHADE TREES.—We hope it is not too late to caution persons who want to plant out fine shade trees, not to expect to obtain much from the woods. To secure a quick and handsome growth, trees must be taken from the Nursery or from open grounds. Elm, silver leaved maple, sugar maple and mulberry, make handsome shade trees.

CAMELS.—These are likely to become numerous in some parts of the country. J. H. Machado has imported a lot into Texas and finds them more useful and easier managed, than horses or mules. A full grown one will carry sixteen or eighteen hundred pounds.

In planting out shrubs or trees and shrubbery, be sure to trim them. Cut off injured roots and some of the tops. Roses require severe pruning.

Items.

The Wilmington (N. C.) *Journal* predicts that there will be no rain in May. We can tell better after May shall have passed.

It is said that wool is falling in price in the Chicago market.

Many farmers would make money by selling off a portion of their farms. If that cannot be done, would they not find advantage in disposing of portions of their farms for a term of years at a nominal price?

Flour and Wheat are in as good demand for consumption in the West as in the Eastern Markets. The falling off of the Wheat crops last year in the United States is estimated at eight millions of bushels.

We continue to learn favorable accounts of a portion of the new wheat crops. In Southern Illinois it never looked better.

The valuable horse Bellfounder, lately the property of J. Stockdale, deceased, of this county, has been purchased by L. M. Wilson, of Alabama. Unquestionably as a “Roadster for all work,” he is one of the best horses in the United States. We regret that Illinois should lose his services.

The Sugar Convention of Iowa was well attended. The Convention passed resolutions, recommending the Imphee as the best sugar producing cane; that the seed should be planted on high and dry ground and tested before being planted. (Good advice.)

Sulphur mixed with salt, say one ounce to the head, given two or three times, will destroy lice on cattle.

It is often the case that the very men who know the least about practical farming, do the most writing on the subject.

Valuable Receipts.

WARTS.—Rub them with fresh beef every day until they begin to disappear.

FOR A STING.—Bind on the place a thick plaster of salt moistened.

RING WORMS.—Take tobano and boil well, add Vinegar and lye and wash often.

BURNS.—Mix one part essence of Peppermint and three of whiskey, and apply with cloths.

TO PREVENT BRUISES FROM TURNING BLACK.—Make a plaster of salt and tallow and cover the wound.

BOILS.—If very painful, apply a poultice of bread and milk.

Set out Orchards.

Editor of the Farmer :

We are now enjoying favorable weather and, like all others, I ardently hope it will continue. Some farmers who have dry land, are already plowing for spring wheat and oats and before your paper is issued, there will be large amounts of ground sown with these grains. Considering the demands of the country—and considering the condition of the country, it is hoped that our farmers will put in all the crops possible and to the extent possible. The country is bare of oats, wheat, barley, corn and potatoes—never so bare before, at this season of the year in my recollection.

I set out with the design of saying a few words on the subject of planting orchards. We are somewhat discouraged on this subject. The few last years of unusual weather has been destructive to our orchards. Many of those which yielded fruit in abundance, and of which we were proud, cannot now be found. It is thought, that orchards planted on similar land, with the same kind of treatment will be likely always to fail. But we have some experience on this subject which may be useful to us.

We have some idea of what trees are the hardiest. We can get them from the nurseries. We have some knowledge of the kind of soil and the best protection for fruit. We must take advantage of this knowledge.

The Rull's Jenet, Northern Spy, Maidens' Blush, Early Harvest, Yellow Bellflower, Winter Wine Sap, very generally survive the late hard season. We can rely on the hardiness of these trees with tolerable certainty. There are others, undoubtedly, equally hardy.

We know that it will not answer to plant orchards on black prairie soils.—Experience has proved that lands, for apple trees should have dry bottoms. Hence it should be elevated land. Barrens would probably be best, and these if protected on the South and West would add great security to the orchard. Let these account for these facts who can. The facts exist.

I think that the trees should not be set out in dry windy chilly weather, early in spring. I rather set them out late when the earth is dryer and warmer and is in a condition to receive the trees kindly and make them grow.

Trees taken up in the fall, and put in to the ground in trenches, as is done in most nurseries, for sale in the spring, are kept back from growing, so that they can often be set out with good success until May.

Farmers desiring to obtain trees from Illinois Nurseries, have ample time to order them now.

"ROCK RIMMON."

The Dairy.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER :—I was glad to notice in your last number an exhortation to farmers on the subject of the Dairy. It is a fact known to all, that except a small portion of the year, when it is too late to keep butter without one has an ice house or other conveniences for doing so, good butter is scarce in market. I say good butter; for a very small proportion of the butter brought to our markets from the country is it. No. 1. We have better butter from New York and Ohio in winter than we find made in the country. It can be brought a thousand miles—subject to all sorts of handling and then is greatly superior to the home manufactured. I do not say that good butter is not made here; for I know that we have some excellent butter makers; but I speak of a large portion of them.

Now the fact that some families here make the best kind of Butter; that they get the uniform price of twenty-five cents a pound for it during the whole year; that they make money by their Dairies,—must be satisfactory that the business can be carried on here with success and profit.

I wish to call the attention of farmers to this subject. Some of them, at least, are so situated for the right kind of help, that they can make the business pay. If they understand how the thing is to be done, they can make it pay well, the while, and it will give them a certain living.

Get twenty cows—have good pastures—sow a few acres of land with corn broadcast in June,—so that it can be cut and fed in August and September, when the feed is short,—raise crops of carrots and corn to feed out in winter—keep your cows under cover through cold, wet and sleety weather—treat them as a human ought to treat a brute which lives and eats and breathes only for his benefit—and you will have rich milk. a good deal of it, and if you take of it and manufacture pure, sweet, rosy scented butter, you can always find a ready market for it at high prices. Should there by possibility be a surplus in summer, you can put it up and make it bring you an advanced price in winter.

I had the duty a few days ago to hunt about Springfield for Butter, and there was scarcely a pound to be had and that which I got was about No. 5, and I paid for it 30 cts. a pound.

In the midst of these hard times a plan is here pointed out by which some farmers can make a good living, and at the same time furnish our towns with a very necessary article of food.

Mr. Editor, will you give our farmers a jog on this subject. A.

Suggestions to Growers of Cane.

1st. Select the highest and driest land, bordering upon sand, marl or clay, and avoid as much as possible the black prairie muck, which grows a large, coarse cane, not very sweet, and is later in ripening.

2d. Plow deep and ridge the same as for corn; plant on the ridges from 3 to 3½ feet each way, it being less trouble to tend than when drilled, and will produce as much juice.

3d. Soak the seed in warm water until

about ready to sprout; plant as early as the ground will admit, and not later than the last of May; cover from 1-4 to 3-4 of an inch deep; cultivate two plants to a hill; allow it to stool well; keep it clean until about three feet high, when it will take care of itself.

4th. When the seed becomes fully black and ripe, strip the leaves by hand or with a stick prepared for that purpose (which is better;) then cut off the tops below the upper joint, as all above injures the syrup; then cut the standing stocks and grind.

5th. Cane should all be cut as soon as ripe, as it injures by standing; keep it clean from dirt; reject all green succor stalks. If you have much to work, you had better commence as soon as a few heads begin to turn dark, as it will then make good syrup, although it will not grain well until ripe, and an early beginning will enable you to work up your cane before it freezes and sours, or sours standing, which it will do if permitted to stand long after it is ripe.

6th. The working of early planted cane, with a good season, may be commenced by the first of September, when everything should be in readiness. It may be kept safely for weeks after it is cut, if protected from freezing by overflowing with straw; frequent freezing and thawing spoils it. In any case, it must be cut before heavy frosts, as they will cause it to sour.

Culture of the Onion.

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.—In your paper, Vol. XIII, No. 9, are instructions about growing onions—some of which are very good; others not so good. First it is well to have new seed, of the right kind—to be sure of this, grow it yourself, by selecting onions of the size and quality you wish to grow, and setting them out where they will flourish without any intermixture of the baser sorts.—Onions, like persons, are known by the company they keep; he, therefore, who would have his product pure, must be careful that they have no bad associates. Spare no pains in preparing the soil, pulverizing and fertilizing it well, and clearing the surface of all extraneous matter, so that the seed may be evenly distributed—in rows about fourteen inches apart, and thick enough in the row to admit of the young plants being thinned, so as to leave them growing about two inches apart. No harm will accrue from their being thus thick; this will enable them to grow two inches in diameter, and when they grow larger than this, they are coarse and not so palatable. H. speaks of applying twenty cords of manure to the acre. It cannot be necessary to apply so much if the land is at all decent; one-half this quantity will be enough if properly fined and intermingled with the soil.

No crop better rewards care in culture than the onion. It has an extreme aversion to weeds, and every thing else that disturbs the tender fibres of the young plant. Although the bulb forms chiefly

on the surface, these fibres extend to the depth of *ten or twelve* inches, and the soil should be in condition to favor this extension. Otherwise, when drouth comes on, the growing plants will feel it; and once checked in their growth, from this or any other cause, they never again fully recover.

Having lived for the last thirty years in the midst of fields of onions, where more than *one hundred thousand barrels* of best quality are annually gathered, I have presumed to make these suggestions. If they should find favor in your sight, and place in your excellent paper, perhaps more of like character on other crops, may be forthcoming in due season. J. W. P. South Danvers, Mass.

"Netting Hogs."

Or in other words, to find the net weight when the gross weight is given, is to some a difficult operation. Any one who can read figures, can see at a glance, by the following table, what the net weight of a hog is. The table is made from the "Kentucky Rule," that is, for the first 100 lbs. deduct 22 lbs. for gross; for the second 100 lbs. deduct 12½ lbs.; and for the third 100 lbs. deduct 6½. All over the third hundred is net.

Pounds.	lbs	Oz.
100 gross will net.....	75	
105 " ".....	79	6
110 " ".....	83	12
115 " ".....	88	2
120 " ".....	92	8
125 " ".....	96	14
130 " ".....	101	4
135 " ".....	105	10
140 " ".....	110	
145 " ".....	114	6
150 " ".....	118	12
155 " ".....	123	2
160 " ".....	127	8
165 " ".....	131	14
170 " ".....	136	4
175 " ".....	140	10
180 " ".....	143	
185 " ".....	149	6
190 " ".....	153	12
200 " ".....	158	2
205 " ".....	162	8
210 " ".....	167	3
215 " ".....	174	14
220 " ".....	176	9
225 " ".....	182	4
230 " ".....	185	15
235 " ".....	190	10
240 " ".....	195	5
245 " ".....	200	
250 " ".....	209	6
255 " ".....	214	1
260 " ".....	218	12
265 " ".....	223	7
270 " ".....	228	2
275 " ".....	232	13
280 " ".....	237	8
285 " ".....	242	3
290 " ".....	246	14
295 " ".....	251	
300 " ".....	256	

LIST OF PREMIUMS

TO BE AWARDED AT THE FIRST EXHIBITION OF THE
POMOLOGICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS,
To be held at Jonesboro, in Union County,
May 31 and June 1, 1859.

During the forenoon of the first day, none but exhibitors or members of awarding committees will be admitted. The evening of each day will be devoted to the discussion of pomological and horticultural subjects. All, whether living within the boundaries of the society or not, are invited to compete for premiums. Where agricultural or horticultural books or papers are awarded as premiums, should the recipients be, already,

subscribers to said papers, or have received the same in some other award, permission will be given to select from the list some other book or paper of equal price.

Magazines and papers, offered as premiums, will be sent for one year.

When there are no competitors, no premium will be awarded, unless the article exhibited is really meritorious.

Class A--No. 1.

Best floral design, to be conspicuous in size, well-proportioned and tastefully arranged—"Horticulturalist," with colored plates.

Second best floral design—"Rural New Yorker."

Best and most tastefully arranged floral wreath—"Ohio Farmer."

2nd best floral wreath—"Valley Farmer."

Best floral arch—"Gardener's Monthly."

2nd best floral arch—"Breck's Book of Flowers."

Best and most tastefully arranged pair of large bouquets for vases—"Country Gentleman."

2nd best pair large bouquets—"Ohio Cultivator."

Best and most tastefully arranged pair of vases or shells with flowers—"Barry's F. B."

Best display of choice and well grown hardy flowers, by an amateur—"Hort." with colored plates.

2nd best display of flowers—"O. Cultivator."

The same by a professional florist or nurseryman—"Hort." with colored plates.

2nd best of the same—"Illinois Farmer."

COMMITTEE.—Mrs. Col. Ashley Jonesboro; Mrs. A. K. Cory, Centralia; Mrs. J. P. Reynolds, Salem; Mrs. B. L. Wiley, Jonesboro; Mrs. W. B. Forman, Nashville; Mrs. A. F. Starr, Alton.

Class A--No. 2.

Best and greatest display of hardy June roses—"Hovey's Magazine."

2nd best display of roses—"Valley Farmer."

Best display of perpetual roses—"Thomas' F. B."

Best display of greenhouse plants in bloom—"Hort." with colored plates.

2nd best of greenhouse plants—"O. Cultivator."

Best display of wild flowers, correctly named—"Ohio Farmer."

2nd best display of wild flowers—"Illinois Farmer."

Best display of the the greatest variety of wild flowers unnamed—"Elliott's F. B."

Best display of Pansies—"Valley Farmer."

Best display of Delphiniums—"Breck's B. of F."

Best display of Holland Bulbs—do.

Best display of Pink—do.

Best display of Phloxes—do.

Best display of Annuals—do.

Best display of Spireas—do.

Best display of Cut Flowers—do.

COMMITTEE.—Mr. Dunphy, Central City; Mrs. J. M. Ridd, Salem; Mrs. J. D. Wood, Nashville; Mrs. C. B. Overman, Bloomington; Mrs. S. Chandler, Belleville; Mr. D. L. Phillips, Jonesboro.

Class A--No. 3.

Best botanical collection—"Country Gentleman."

Best zoological collection—"Prairie Farmer."

Best geological collection—"Ount. Press."

Largest collection of insects destructive to fruits or flowers, correctly named—"Hort." with colored plates.

Largest collection of same, destructive to garden vegetables—"Rural New Yorker."

COMMITTEE.—S. S. Coudon, Jonesboro; J. H. McChesney, Springfield; Dr. G. W. Hotchkiss, Ashley.

Class A--No. 4.

Best Essay on Ornamental Gardening—"Rural N. Y."

Best plan for flower garden—"O. Farmer."

Best Essay on Fruit Growing in Southern Illinois—"Country Gentleman."

COMMITTEE.—Mr. Marschalk, Jonesboro; M. L. Wilcox, Centralia; L. D. Silling, Kinmundy; M. L. McCord, Centralia.

Class B--No. 5.

Best display of last year's fruits—"Prairie Farmer."

2nd best display of fruit—"Ohio Cultivator."

Best and greatest variety of strawberries—"Gardener's Monthly."

Best single variety of strawberries—"Hovey's Magazine."

Best display and greatest variety of currants—"Centralia Press."

Best display and greatest variety of gooseberries—"Rural New Yorker."

COMMITTEE.—Gov. Casey, Mt. Vernon; Dr. Brooks, Ashley; Jas. S. Martin, Salem; John White, Marion; G. L. Owen, Williamson county.

Class B--No. 6--Canned Fruits, &c.

Best canned peaches—"Valley Farmer."

" " Apples—"Ohio Cultivator."

" " Peas—"Ill. Farmer."

" " Plums—do.

" " Blackberries—do.

" " Raspberries—do.

" " Currants—do.

" " Gooseberries—do.

" " Apple butter—do.

" " Quince jelly—do.

" " Collection of canned fruits—do.

" " Collection of preserved fruits—do.

COMMITTEE.—W. H. Arthur, Centralia; Mrs. Lewis Ellsworth, Naperville; James Bradley, Bradley; Mrs. N. D. Ingraham, Centralia; Mrs. D. J. Parker, Salem; Mrs. B. G. Roots, Tamaroa.

Class C--No. 7.

Best and greatest variety of garden vegetables—"Gardener's Monthly."

2nd best variety of vegetables—"Illinois Farmer."

Best tomatos—"Hovey's Magazine."

Best Carrots—"Prairie Farmer."

Best beets—"Centralia Press."

Best early turnips—"Prairie Farmer."

Best early radishes—"Centralia Press."

Best early lettuce—"Illinois Farmer."

Best early cross—do.

Best early cucumbers—"Prairie Farmer."

Best early asparagus—"Centralia Press."

Best early cabbage—"Illinois Farmer."

Best variety of rhubarb—"Centralia Press."

Best three varieties of rhubarb—"Rural New Yorker."

Best early peas—"Prairie Farmer."

Best early beans—"Centralia Press."

Best display of vegetables out of season (i.e. forced)—"Gardiner's Monthly."

Best green corn—"Prairie Farmer."

COMMITTEE.—C. W. Webster, Salem; B. Pullen, Centralia; O. B. Nicholls, Carlyle; Joseph Barbor, Richview; D. L. Phillips, Jonesboro; T. J. Johnson, Centralia; W. W. Bennett, Jonesboro; Dr. Owen Bainbridge.

Class D--No. 8.

Best display of wax fruit—"Rural New Yorker."

Best display of wax flowers—"Country Gentleman."

COMMITTEE.—Mrs. Phineas Pease, Centralia; Mrs. John Gall, Central City; Mrs. Primmer, Sadoval; Mrs. E. H. Howell, Central City; Mrs. J. G. Vaughn, Salem; Mrs. R. Bond, Carlyle.

Class D--No. 9.

Best painting in oil—"Ohio Farmer."

" " Painting in water—do.

" " Display of ambrotypes—do.

" " Display of daguerotypes—do.

" " Fruit painting in oil—do.

" " Fruit painting in water—do.

COMMITTEE.—W. S. Watt, Greenville; George Ebninger, Salem; D. McVein, Anna; Mrs. N. Drestor, Anna; Mrs. Col. Bainbridge, South Pass; Mrs. J. M. Hunter, Ashley.

Class E--No. 10--Miscellaneous.

Best bouquet of dried flowers and leaves—"B. B. of Flowers."

Best collection of native mosses—"B. B. of F."

Best display of horticultural tools—"Hort."

" " Horticultural books and papers—"Hort."

COMMITTEE.—A. J. J. Pease, Centralia; John D. Wood, Nashville; Dr. Hotchkiss, Ashley.

Native Wines, &c.

Best Catawba wine—"Downing's fruit book."

" " Isabella wine—"Barry's fruit book."

" " Currant Wine—"Thomas' fruit book."

" " Wine from other fruits or vegetables—"Elliott's fruit book."

Best cider—"Downing's F. B."

COMMITTEE.—Governor John Reynolds, Belleville; Dr. J. C. Warden, Cincinnati; S. Francis, Springfield; J. A. Kennicott, West Northfield; Judge Breese, Carlyle; Phineas Pease, Centralia; Judge Haynes, Cairo; John Dougherty, Jonesboro; John T. Preston, Nashville.

Discretionary.

NOTE.—Under this head, all articles not enumerated in the above list will be entered and premiums awarded the same as if they had been regularly listed. In this class only first premiums will be awarded.

COMMITTEE.—J. E. Iobdell, Centralia; Thos. A. Morton, Carbondale; D. H. Brush, Carbondale; Jacob Zimmerman, Makenda; Paul Watkins, Du Quoin; M. Beckwith, Pana; Wm. H. Bird, Vandalia; Eld. Olney Times, Olney; Pres. of McKendree College, Lebanon. B. G. ROOTS, Pres't.

N. D. INGRAHAM, Sec'y.

Some of Franklin's Maxims.

He that by the plow would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive.

The following from the pen of the great American philosopher, Dr. Franklin, should be printed in letters of gold, and hung up in every schoolroom, side by side with the usual a-b ab dog latin, and other nonsense with which our children's minds are crammed, and which seems to be the rule in our modern system of tuition.

There will be a time when a professorship of political economy will be considered as absolutely necessary to every school. But that time is not yet. At present we have nothing but profusion and shameful waste, on the one hand, while abject poverty, meanness of spirit and total carelessness, is too much observable on the other. These are the two extremes which characterize our present false state of things in a physical point of view—all laid to the score of false training, from the highest to the lowest. But hear what "Poor Richard" says:

1. Plow deep while sluggards sleep,

and you shall have corn to sell and to keep.

2. Pride is as loud a beggar as Want, and a great deal more saucy.

3. Silk and satins, scarlet and velvets put out the kitchen fire.

4. Diligence is the mother of good luck.

5. Pride breakfasted with Plenty, dined with Poverty, and supped with Infamy.

6. Extravagance and improvidence end at the prison door.

7. It is easier to build two chimnies than to keep one in fuel.

8. If you would know the value of money, go and try to borrow some.

9. The eye of a master will do more work than both of his hands.

10. What maintains one vice would bring up two children.

11. He that goes a borrowing, returns sorrowing.

12. Rather go to bed supperless than rise in debt.

13. Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labor wears.

14. A life of leisure and a life of laziness are two different things.

15. Three removes are as bad as a fire.

16. Creditors have better memories than debtors.

17. The rolling stone gathers no moss.

18. If you would have your business done, go; if not, send.

19. It is foolish to lay out money in the purchase of repentance.

20. Buy what thou needest not, and it will oblige thee to sell thy necessities.

"These maxims by Dr. Franklin," says a contemporary, "though often printed, lose nothing of their value by repetition."

State Fair Premiums for Best Farms, Nurseries, &c.

OFFICE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,
Springfield, April 1, 1859.

The following is a list of the premiums offered by the State Agricultural Society for the best farms, nurseries and groves which shall be entered for competition. It is hoped that these entries will be numerous:

For best improved and highly cultivated farm, not less than 500 acres.....	Gold Medal
Second best.....	\$15
Best improved and highly cultivated farm, not less than 160 acres.....	Gold Medal
2nd best.....	15
Best improved and highly cultivated farm, not less than 40 acres.....	Gold Medal
2nd best.....	15
Best arranged and economically conducted prairie farm.....	Gold Medal
2nd best.....	15
Best grove of cultivated timber on the prairie.....	Gold Medal
2nd best.....	Silv. Medal
Best arranged and cultivated nursery of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs and plants.....	\$30
2nd best.....	10
Best arranged and cultivated nursery of the various fruit trees.....	\$20
2nd best.....	10
Best arranged and cultivated nursery of grafted apple trees, from 1 to 4 years old.....	20
2nd best.....	10
Best show of one and two year old grafted or budded apple trees.....	10
2nd best.....	5
The committee, in making their award, will be governed	

by the general arrangement, cultivation, thrift, pruning and training of trees and shrubs. All competitors are required to furnish the committee, at the time of examination, or before they make their award, a written statement of the mode of the preparation of the nursery grounds—the manner of cultivation, mode of pruning trees, shrubs and plants in their respective nurseries.

All persons who desire to compete for the above premiums must communicate their intention to S. FRANCIS, Corresponding Sec'y, Springfield, Ill., by letter, previous to the 1st day of July, so as to give the committee full time to examine the farms, nurseries and groves to be entered.

Awarding Committee:

BENJ. F. JOHNSON.....Urbana.
DR. E. H. CLAPP.....Peoria.
CH. H. ROSENSTIERL.....Freeport.
S. FRANCIS,
Cor. Sec'y Ill. State Ag. Society.

COMMERCIAL.

St. Louis Market—March 26.

FLOUR—Dull. Sales 75 bbl. country single extra at \$6; 50 bbls fancy at \$5 65, and 554 bbls country double extra private.

WHEAT—Steady. Sales 300 sks stumptail spring at 95c; 69 sks poor fall at 110c; 684 sks good spring at 116@161c; 735 sks ordinary and common fall at 115@116c; 577 sks fair fall at 120@122c; 455 sks good fair 122@123c; 143 sks good at 126@128c; 12 sks prime at 130c; 100 sks choice White 135@138c per bushel.

CORN—Firm, with sales of 158 sks poor white at 77c; 916 sks white, yellow and mixed, in lots, at 78c; 150 sks white at 79c; 540 sks do at 80c, and 960 sks white and yellow, private.

OATS—Sales of 380 sks common at 65c; 381 sks good at 72½@73c; 50 sks prime at 75c, including sks, and 77 sks choice at 75c, sks returned.

BARLEY AND RYE—No sales of barley. A small lot of prime Rye in bbls brought 95c.

WHEAT—Steady at 18½c for dry flint. Receipts small.

PORK—Sales of 141 bbls Mess and M. O., mostly the former, at \$15 50, and 200 bbls Mess at \$17 per bbl.

CUT MEATS—4000 shoulders and sides sold at 5¼ and 8c, and 3000 shoulders and hams at 5¼ and 8c per lb.

BACON—Sales of 5 cks good country shoulders at 7c; 4 cks good country hams at 9¼c; and 15 cks light rib sides at 9¼c per lb.

LARD—38 pkgs good manufacturing sold at 10½c, and 32 bbls prime at 11c per lb.

WHISKY—Market unsettled. Sales of 335 bbls in lots at 25½c; 32 bbls at 25½c, and 65 bbls in two lots at 26c per gallon.

GREEN APPLES—15 bbls sold at \$3 50 per bbl.

HAY—Sales of 24 bales prime at 87½c per 100 lbs.

POTATOES—Supply large, and the market has declined. Sales of 100 sks Ohio Gesheanocks at \$1; 100 barrels prime Michigan in lots at 1 15@1 20, including bbls, and 114 bbls and 104 sks do on private terms.

BROOMS—100 doz Illinois sold on private terms, and 50 doz fancy at \$2 55 per dozen.

New Orleans Cattle Market—March 18.

Beef Cattle—The supply is very moderate, barely 280 head of ordinary and fine Western cattle remaining on sale. We quote fine Western at 10½@11c per lb net, and Texas at 18@30 and \$45 per head.

Hogs—Prices at 9@9½c per lb net. About 450 head remain on sale.

Sheep—The market has been bare for several days. Last sales at \$6 75@8.

Milk Cows—At \$40@85 per head. A small stock.

Veal Cattle—Good demand. Prices at \$7@13 50 per head.

St. Louis Live Stock Market—March 26.

Cattle—The supply is light, and the shipping demand moderate. Sales of common to fair at from 7c to 8½c net; good and prime from 9c to 10c per lb.

Hogs—Are arriving freely, and sell at from 6c to 8c net per lb.

Sheep—Are scarce and in excellent request. Common and fair are worth from \$3 to \$5—extra \$6. A fair average lot brought \$5 50 each.

Cows and Calves—Good cows are in poor supply. The extremes are \$20@40.

New York Cattle Market—March 23.

A. M. Allerton & Co., proprietors of the Washington drove Yards, Forty fourth street, report the cattle in market from the following states:

New York.....	635	Iowa.....	12
Indiana.....	149	Kentucky.....	265
Ohio.....	624	Michigan.....	203
Illinois.....	556	Pennsylvania.....	17
Virginia.....	76	New Jersey.....	17
Connecticut.....	18	Canada.....	110
Missouri.....	52	Massachusetts.....	19

The following are the droves from Illinois:

Shuester & Seigle.....	91
Alexander & Fitch.....	73
S. Stainright.....	15
A. M. Allerton.....	71
George Radcliff.....	76
J. T. Alexander.....	196
John Taylor.....	46

And 25 small lots from this State.

BEEF CATTLE.

Number reported at this market at Forty-fourth street, 2,741

The prices to-day are quoted as follows:

First quality.....	10½@11c.
Medium.....	9½@10c.
Ordinary.....	8@9 c.
Some extra good heaves may be quoted at.....	11½@12c.
The general average of the market at.....	@ 10c.
The most of the sales range from.....	9@10½c.

EVERGREENS.

ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S. FRANCIS for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitae, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

Nell Pine Strawberry plants at \$3 50 per 1000; and Hybrid Scotch Rhubarb at \$3 per 100.

Orders for the articles may be left with mchl

S. FRANCIS.

SEEDS.

GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS in great variety, for sale by S. FRANCIS.

Seeds will be sent by express or mail, as ordered.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL RECEIVE orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery to be had from any Nursery in this State. The articles will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries. mchl S. FRANCIS.

MELLONS.

SEEDS OF THE FAMOUS JAPAN APPLE pie melon at 39 cents per doz., by W. H. Gardner, Sublette, Lee Co., Illinois. farm mchl

SEED WHEAT.

"CANADA CLUB," "SCOTCH FIFE," "DUNDEE," &c. Hellmwell, Brother, Milwaukee, Wis., and B. F. Pixley & Co., Janesville, have received from Canada West a supply of these Spring Wheats for seed. It is well known that the change of seed produces a large increase of the crop. Applications for this seed can be made at S. FRANCIS Seed Store, Springfield, who will send orders to meet the wishes of farmers.

SEED OATS.

Persons desiring seed oats, should apply immediately as above. farm mchl

CATALOGUE

OF

GARDEN SEEDS

FOR SALE BY S. FRANCIS,
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

Asparagus, Artichoke.
BEANS, FOR SNAPS—Valentine, Early Newington, Thousand to One, Early Mohawk, Early China, White Cranberry Bunch, Royal White Bunch.
BEANS, POLE—London Horticultural Cranberry, Siva, Lima, Red Cranberry, Indian Chief.
CABBAGE—Early Wakefield, Early York, Red Dutch, Early Sugar Leaf, Premium Flat Dutch, Large American Drumhead, Drumhead and Kohl Rabi.
CAULIFLOWER—Early London.
CORN—Early Red Cob Sweet, Mammoth Sweet, Early Tuscarora, &c., Smith's Early White.
BEETS—Early Bassano, Early Blood Turnip, Long Blood Red, Mangel Wurtzel, &c., English Sugar Beet, &c., White Sugar.
CUCUMBERS—Short Green Early, Long London, Long Turkey, Gherkin, &c.
CELERY—Solid white, chrysal white, solid red.
CRESS—Curled double, broad leaf.
CARROT—Common yellow, early horn, blood red, Belgium yellow.
EGG PLANT—Early long purple.
KALE—Sea kale.
LETTUCE—Ice" coss, early Silesia, green drumhead, &c., early white.
MELON—(Cantalope), pine apple, nutmeg, beach wood, green citron, large yellow cantaloupe.
WATER MELON—Mountain sprout, mountain sweet, Long Island, ice cream, black Spanish, citron melons Nasturtium, Okra, short and long green.
ONION—Large Wetherfield red, early red, Denver's yellow, yellow silver skin, white Portugal.
PEPPER—Large bull nose, large squash, Spanish, cherry, small cayenne.
PEAS—Early Comestocks dwarf, Bishop's long pod, champion of England, dwarf Prussian, large marrowfat, Prince Albert.
PUMPKIN—Large yellowfield, parsnip, long sweet.
PARSLEY—Double curled, Myatt's garishing.
RHUBARB—Mitchell's early, Myatt's Victoria, Spinach.
SQUASHES (winter.)—Autumnal marrow, winter crookneck, lima cocoonut, Hubbard's winter.
SQUASHES (summer.)—Early crookneck bush, early yellow bush.
TURNIP—Flat Dutch, early six weeks and various varieties.
TOBACCO—Varieties.
TOMATO—Large red, red cherry, yellow.
SAGE—Common red.
RADISH—Early red turnip, early long red short top, long, salmon, black Spanish, Salsify (white), scorzonera.
Seeds of various garden herbs.
FLOWER SEEDS—In great variety—embracing a hundred sorts.
CHINESE SUGAR CANE SEEDS—and various other seeds for garden and field usually found at Seed Stores.

B. F. FOX,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. *Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.*

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREH USE.

Large and complete assortment of *Locks, Latches, Butts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS*—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bits, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Steptoe's Morticing Machines, Files, etc.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Buttresses, etc.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, *Knives, Hooks, Planes, etc.*

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholm's Butcher's and other's, *Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Carvers, etc.* Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and double barrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a Hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: *Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Punctures, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.*

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Mastin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Bows, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belting, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.

May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX.

THE ILLINOIS**Mutual Fire Insurance Co.**

LOCATED AT ALTON ILLINOIS.

CHARTERED FEB. 23, 1839. ORGANIZED APRIL 4, 1839.

Amount of premium notes in force February 1st, 1856, constituting a fund for the payment of Losses,

\$800,000.00,

Secured by a lien on property insured, valued at over

\$9,000,000!

THIS company insures dwellings, stores, warehouses, manufactories, mills, barns, stables and the contents of each, together with every other similar species of property within the State, from

LOSS OR DAMAGE BY FIRE!

The Directors feel justified in recommending this company to the favorable consideration of the citizens of Illinois. Every one insured becomes a member, the company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. As the indemnification fund augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks, the capital of the company is comparatively exhaustless; and the entire safety of the institution must be apparent to every one who reads the charter.

The cost of insuring in this company is so low, as to render it almost inexcusable for the owners of insurable property not to avail themselves of its protection.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LYMAN TRUMBULL, ELIAS HIBBARD, L. KELLENBERGER,
BENJ. F. LONG, SAMUEL WADE, ALFRED DOW,
ROBERT SMITH, JOHN JAMES, BENJ. K. HART,
TIMOTHY TURNER, HENRY LEA, JOHN BAILHACHE,
M. G. ATWOOD, NATH'L JANSON, JOHN ATWOOD,
BENJAMIN F. LONG, President.

LEWIS KELLENBERGER, Treas. M. G. ATWOOD, Sec'y.

An Agent for this Company may be found in almost every County of the State.

Application for insurance may be made to
JAMES L. HILL, Agent,
at Springfield.

STAR CO R MILL,

For Grinding Corn, Cob, Hominy or Meal and General Stock Feed.

WE DELIVER THIS MILL AT ANY point, or from our wagons, that run through the different parts of the country, at the manufacturer's retail price, which is, for the mill complete, \$60.

Orders, or letters of inquiry should be addressed to HUNT, PYKE & Co., Springfield, Ill.

We need but say that where the Star Mill has been used, it has gained credit beyond all other Mills now in use; and the farmer only needs to see and try it in order to become convinced that it is perfect in its arrangement from the fact that it grinds green as well as old corn, (corn and cob passing through it together,) which no other Mill will do. Farmers and stock-growers can save from 30 to 40 bushels of corn in each 100 by the use of this Mill; (at least we have certificates to that effect.) Persons having once experienced its benefit, will never return to the wasteful practice of feeding corn in the ear.

It will undoubtedly make good meal of shelled corn for family use.

The Mill grinds from twelve to twenty bushels per hour, and makes an easy draft for two horses.

We can produce first premiums, diplomas, and recommendations too numerous to mention.

For full particulars, references and description of Mills, see circulars.

N. B.—Persons can be supplied with a Star Mill, and also see one in operation by calling at the Agricultural Store of FRANCIS & BARRELL, Authorized Agents.

Jan 1, 1855

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson, Wm. Poffinbarger,
J. J. Short, David Newsom,
John W. Beck, Uriah Mann,
John Kavanaugh, Philemon Stout.

Sangamon county, Jan 17, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER, Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

aug4-wlv

B. B. LLOYD, DENTIST,

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Condell, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 1855.

Sweet Potat Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (See advertisement of early Nansemond potatoes) feb1 S. FRANCIS.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR POTASH!**CONCENTRATED LYE!**

A FAMILY ARTICLE.

For making soap without Lime, and with little or no trouble and trifling expense.

THE CHEAPEST AND MOST CONVE- NIENT article ever offered to the public for that purpose. EVERY FAMILY can make all the soap they use from their ordinary kitchen grease and this Lye. Nothing else is required.

ONE POUND BOX will make 25 gallons of fine soft soap, or nine pounds of elegant hard soap, and several gallons of soft.

A single trial will convince any one of its great utility and cheapness.

PRINTERS, and all others using a strong Lye, will find the "Concentrated" three hundred per cent. cheaper than anything else they can use.

For sale by all the Druggists and Grocers in the country.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!

Manufactured only by the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company, Pittsburg, Pa., who manufacture extra superfine snow white TABLE, DAIRY and POKE PACKERS SALT, warranted free from all impurities, and the only really pure salt made in this country.

Caustic soda, for soap makers, soda ash, refined soda ash, sal soda, bleaching powder, bleaching liquor, manganese, nitric acid, muriatic acid, aqua fortis, chloroform, soda saleratus.

sept6-daw4m farmer2m

For sale wholesale and retail, by

J. B. FOSSELMAN, Druggist.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Deere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING

is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style,

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

Ox Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kinds of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention.

Sept., 1855—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

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NO. 5.

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PREMIUM ESSAY.

PREMIUM ESSAY.

On the various breeds of Sheep and their Adap- tion to the Prairies.

BY A. B. M'CONNELL, OF SANGAMON CO., ILL.

At this late day, I presume it will no longer be disputed that our climate is well adapted to wool growing, and also for the fattening of mutton. I have been growing wool in this State for the last fourteen years, and several years previous in the State of New York.—When I first saw Illinois and its Prairies I arrived at the same conclusion with many others at that time, having been raised amongst the hills and rocks of the East—that the Prairies were too low and level for the health of sheep and their development.

It is a very common idea that sheep will only do well in a hilly country, from the fact that much of the low, level lands, of those countries are inclined to be springy and mossy, and that sheep confined to such pastures, soon get diseased, and the owners are compelled to turn them upon the hills or lose their flocks. I have no hesitation in saying that sheep are not liable to contract diseases upon our Prairie soils. The foot rot that made such havoc among their flocks East, will not continue the second summer upon our Prairies. I speak from experience, and have also known other cases, where large flocks have been driven here with the disease upon them. It has never shown itself the second summer; and but very slightly the first.

We have no contagious diseases here that I know of, except the scab, and that is said to be easily subdued and kept down by a decoction of tobacco and soft soap. To cure the disease, it is necessary, directly after shearing, to dip the whole flock, once a week, for three or four weeks. I know of one flock of about fifteen hundred, that had the scab that has sheared five lbs of washed wool per head for the last two years; but if any flock master should be so unfortun-

ate as to get it into his flock, my advice would be to keep them from breeding. Let them get fat upon the summer range and sell them to the butchers. As the disease does not trouble or affect them in summer, it does not injure them for mutton.

Then I arrive at the conclusion that our climate and Prairies are well adapted to sheep husbandry. For I believe it to be a fact, which is generally acknowledged, that no country can surpass us in growing the necessary food, both to make wool and mutton. The question then arises which is the most profitable breed. The answer depends entirely upon circumstances and locality. If near some large towns, and mutton is the object of the breeder, then I would say, some of the long woolled breeds or the Southdowns. There is a great diversity of opinion as to which of the above breeds will prove to be the most profitable for our soil and climate.— Having never bred or handled either of them, I do not feel competent to decide between them. The Longwools attain to greater size, and shears a larger fleece, but they will not bear to be herded in as large flocks as the Southdowns; and being greater feeders, in case of long drouths, will not stand as much short keeping.

There is probably no country that consumes more mutton than England, and there the Southdown mutton, for its fine flavor and superior quality, stands pre-eminently the highest. But probably for their great size, where but a small flock is desired, the Longwools may yield the greatest profit.

Having decided which are the best breeds for mutton, the question comes up—which is the best breed for wool growing? I answer the Merino. In all fine woolled flocks, wool is the first object, and mutton the second. So in pursuing our inquiries, we must take into consideration which is the most profitable breed for both wool and mutton combined. There are three classes of Merino, the French, Spanish and what is termed of late years the American.—

The latter is a stock of sheep which have been bred from our earliest importations by Messrs. Humphrey and Jarvis, as far back as 1802. Probably but few of those importations have been kept pure. They have been crossed with others, and a few years ago, when the Saxony fever ran high, most of the fine flocks were crossed with them to the great detriment of the country and also to the pecuniary interest of their owners.

There is also a diversity of opinion as to which is the best, the French or Spanish. Both have their admirers, and I suppose that circumstances and locality, will govern to a great extent without deciding between them. In Central Illinois and South, where they can be herded upon grass the most of the year, and corn can be grown the cheapest and in great abundance, at a low price, I think the French will always prove to be the most profitable.

They are of large size, of strong vigorous constitution good feeders, and come to maturity at an early age, and shear very heavy fleeces of a fine quality.—The ewes being strong, make excellent breeders; the lambs come strong and healthy, and are but little trouble to raise. The wethers make good mutton, will fatten readily in large flocks, and will fall but little behind the mutton sheep in weight; and when the wool and mutton are taken into account, they will prove to be a profitable breed for the farmer.

The Spanish being of a smaller breed and being kept more expressly for wool growing, are probably the best sheep for Northern latitudes. In such localities grain is usually at a high price and but little is fed to stock sheep;—hay is the principal feed; and what mutton is sold is generally taken from the pastures after getting fat upon grass. They are also of strong constitutions, shear heavy fleeces of a splendid quality of wool, which is usually very gummy, more so than any other brand; and consequently their wool will lose more in cleaning than that of any other breed of Sheep. But as long as manufacturers will send out Agents who will pay as much for gum as wool, it will be well enough to let them have as much of it as possible! The Spanish, being of less size, will also bear short keeping better than the French. But no person should calculate to keep more than he can feed and do it well.

Every farmer commencing the business, should be careful in the selection of a flock. Either of the above breeds will pay a good profit, if well taken care of. And I will remark here, that every farmer that intends to try the raising of stock must give them the care and attention that they require or he had better let the business alone.

It is the custom of every flock master, or should be, to sell the poorest of his flock, which would consist of different ages, form and size.

But for beginners it will be much better policy to buy young sheep all of the same age, and of good form and size and of an even fleece, even if a much higher price is paid, than to take a flock of old and young and of an uneven quality of wool, at a much lower figure.

WINTER MANAGEMENT OF SHEEP.—Whenever grass begins to fail, the Sheep should receive a little grain once a day. It is bad economy to let them begin to run down at the beginning of winter.—They should always be kept in good condition, for it is an impossibility to get a heavy fleece of wool from a poor sheep. And it should be borne in mind, that wool is only growing while the sheep are in a thriving condition. They require one quart of corn per head a day, with the fodder, or if fed hay or run upon good grass pastures, they will not require so much. It is always necessary to keep the lambs by themselves; when they are weaned they should be turned into meadows and have plenty of running water. They should be taken from their mothers at about five months old. It is a difficult matter to learn them to eat corn.

The best mode I have found for wintering lambs, is this: I plant a portion of my corn adjoining my grass land, and when it becomes necessary to feed, I turn them into both grass and corn, for a week or two. They should only be allowed to run in the corn about one hour each day, until they all get used to the food. After that they can be allowed perfect liberty to run upon either fields. They do much better in this way, than when fed, and will not waste any more corn. Sheep eat corn in a different manner from other stock. As fast as they shell it from the cob, they pick up the loose kernels before shelling any more. They will eat a little more by this mode of feeding; but the extra amount of wool they will shear, and the extra growth they will acquire, will richly pay the difference. Yearlings should be kept and fed by themselves. Their teeth are weak and they will not get their share if fed with older stock.

The buck should not be allowed to run with the breeding ewes through the winter. They often strike them with their horns, and cause them to lose their lambs. They can be kept by themselves, or turned with the weathers.

In Central Illinois sheep are frequently fed in flocks as high as 1000 or 1,500; but I do not think that over 500 or 800 should be kept together; they should be fed at regular hours, and should always be fed an hour before sundown, so that

they can eat before dark. They do not like to feed after night. They should never receive more than they will eat tolerably clean.

The shepherd should always watch his flock closely, and when he sees that any one is not doing well from any cause, should remove it to the hospital. It is always necessary to have some place where such sheep can be properly taken care of. Ewes should be bred in November, the time of gestation is five months; and the common practice of turning the rams into the flock and letting them run promiscuously through it, is wrong. Several rams running in the same flock excite each other to unnecessary activity, besides injuring each other by constant blows. It is every point of view bad husbandry, and is destructive to every thing like careful and judicious breeding.

Every wool grower should have convenient yards and pens for handling his sheep. The breeding ewes should be brought into the yard once a day, and one or two strong rams well approved turned into the flock, and such ewes as are ready to breed can be taken out and bred to such rams as are best calculated to impart to their progeny the improvement that are desired to be obtained. A different mark should be put upon the ewes for the several rams that are used. By this mode every ram can be thoroughly tested as a breeder, and in no other way where there is more than one ram used, can any man have that knowledge and pedigree of his flock that every breeder should have.

Ewes should have their lambs about the commencement of grass; and then as the grass and milk increases the lamb will also have age and strength to receive it. Particular attention should be given to the ewes at this time. It frequently happens that they have more milk than the lamb can take for a few days, while young, and unless the ewe is milked, her udder will swell and inflame and she will refuse to let her lamb suck. The consequence will be the lamb will die, the mother, perhaps, will lose her wool, if not her life, and be destroyed at a breeder. Whenever a strong healthy ewe loses her lamb, she should receive another, either a twin, or one taken from a weekly sheep. It is generally necessary in such cases to shut them up in a small pen for a few days, by themselves. Another mode is to skin the dead one and tie the skin on the lamb you wish the ewe to take. I never knew this to fail when done in time. Lambs should be castrated and marked at about ten days old. They do much better at that age, than older, and should not be driven far or fast enough to heat them before the operation.

Ewes and lambs should be herded by

themselves, and should always be driven carefully through gates or bars; and not allowed to crowd—for lambs are often injured in this way.

The best mode of washing sheep is in vats. The wool can be got in better order, because there is no danger of getting sand or muddy water into the wool, in getting them out of the vat. Another advantage is, that nearly every wool grower can wash on his own farm. The common practice of driving to some stream, perhaps 4 or 5 miles away is very troublesome, besides expensive, and generally at that season of the year, it is very dusty, and when the sheep are got back to their pasture again, with the exception of the oil, which is taken from their wool they are nearly as dirty as when they left it. Dams can be made across most any small stream, and sufficient water obtained to wash 1,000 or 1500 a day. The water should be carried through the dam in two troughs; of about ten inches wide, and should have about one foot fall. The sheep should be put into the vat at the lower end, and then soaked and washed through different hands to the upper end, and there rinsed off under the troughs, by experienced washers, and put out upon a plank platform to drain. And until shorn should be kept upon clean grass pastures.

It is supposed by some that sheep are ready to shear as soon as they are dry. But this is a great mistake. Shearing should not commence until the oil begins to strike into the wool again. For until that time, the wool is dry and harsh, and will cut hard, has not that soft and lively appearance which will add so much to its beauty, and also make it more saleable. If the weather is suitable they will be ready to shear in 6 or 8 days after washing.

Sheep are generally shorn upon barn floors, which should be kept well swept, and clean as possible, so that the wool may be kept clean. After the fleece is off, it is taken to a bench, where it is spread out with the out side up and worked together as firmly as possible. If there are any burrs or tags upon it they should be taken off, then the ends and sides thrown in so as to leave it about two feet square; then all the loose locks are put into the centre, folded together over each way and tied. Wool should be packed firmly in some clean suitable place, where no dust or straw can get into it, until it is put into sacks ready for market.

Clean up! Clean up!

Editor of the Farmer:—Most of the articles in your paper are addressed to farmers and about the business of farming. But you neglect somethings of some importance. Every woman is told that her house is her kingdom, and its man-

agement especially belongs to her. To some extent this is true. When the house is made comfortable and the surroundings pleasant, it should be her business as far as possible to keep them so. A woman of ambition has some taste in regard to the appearance of the *outside* as well as the *inside* of her kingdom.—She likes to see the grounds about the house kept neat, and this she cannot do without the assistance of the men. Men are prone to carelessness. They think it all right to lumber up the grounds about the house with all the broken implements of the farm. I know a neighbor who has a fine yard if kept in order, that now looks as though it was the general receptacle of all the cast off articles of the farm. In passing through it the other day I noted that there was an old shed; a broken wagon wheel; piece of an ox-yoke; several parts lying in a heap; some big logs of wood about, too big to burn; a large mass of rotting chips that would make good manure for a garden; and a little distance one side an ash heap of ashes that had been leached—the very thing wanted for the garden; an old broken stove pipe; old boots and shoes; broken crockery, and I can't tell what else. Now these things show a great want of tidiness, and too often are an index of the state of things *within* the kingdom. What woman will have ambition to keep up a system of neatness and order in the house, when every thing is so slovenly without? And this slovenly appearance is due to the man! With three hours labor he could, put everything to rights! But he has no time, he says. Nonsense, he has time. Does he wish his wife to do it? Does he expect her to do it? Is that her business? When a stranger passes a house in the country he can tell very near what kind of people inhabit it from the surroundings! Don't you think so, Mr. Editor? Don't you *know* it to be so? MEHITABEL.

Calves.

Nothing is more important to the successful rearing of stock, than that the young animals should receive a "good start" in life, and it is idle to expect a profitable return from an animal which has been half starved and uncared for during the first few months of its existence.

When we look into a farm yard and see the young calves cringing and shivering in the corners, their legs drawn together under them as if they were huddling together for sympathy, their long, rusty, lifeless looking hair standing at right angles with the body, their paunches stuffed with coarse, unwholesome, or inutritious food, until they are swelled to an enormous size, their eyes dull, dreamy and listless, and the whole general appearance impressing one vivid-

ly with the idea that there is indeed such a thing as a state of semi-existence, we do not require to be told that the owner is a poor man. Such management will make any man poor in a short time.

A large portion of the cattle raised in the United States are born in this month and the future thrift and value of our herds depends much upon the management of the young animals during the first four months of their lives.

When in a state of nature, the calves are nourished during this period almost entirely by the milk of their dams, and there can be little doubt that when the health and growth of the calf is the principal object with the breeder, it should be allowed to run with the cow. But to very many farmers the milk is of too much value to permit this, and the calves must be artificially reared. When this is done the calf should not be taken from the cow before the second or third day, or until the milk of the dam is fit for the purposes of the dairy. We are aware that many breeders advise taking the calf from the cow before it has been allowed to suck, urging as a reason that the calf will much more easily be taught to drink if it is never allowed to get its food in the natural way. This may be true, but there is very little trouble in teaching the calf to drink after it has been allowed to run with the cow a day or two, and there is a very important reason why this should be done. The faeces that accumulate in the intestines during the latter months of the foetal state are dense and adhesive, and voiding the excrement is at first, often attended with some difficulty. By a wise and admirable provision of nature, the first milk of the cow possesses certain laxative properties which materially assists in establishing the healthy action of the intestines, and it is very important that this milk should constitute the first food of the calf.

When the calf is taken from the cow it should be removed as far as is convenient from her that it may not be rendered unnecessarily restless by her lowing. It should be fed entirely on new milk for a few days until it becomes accustomed to the change, when "skimmed milk" can gradually be substituted for the new.

If two or more calves are kept together they should be separated for an hour or so after they are fed, if not, they are almost certain to contract the injurious habit of sucking one another. This can be accomplished either by feeding them separately in small pens which can be closed while they are eating, or they can be tied. The latter is on some accounts the better way, as the calf which has once been thoroughly accustomed to the halter never forgets it, and will ever after be easily restrained in this way.

As soon as the grass is well up, turn into a small pasture or yard where the feed is good and provide shelter to which they can retire at pleasure. Beware of practicing a common, but fatal piece of false economy by putting them on a short allowance of milk. Do not attempt to wean them too soon. The young calf can no more subsist upon grass alone than the infant can live upon meat and vegetables.

Calves should be fed milk at least twelve weeks.—*Stock Journal*.

More Staples.

Editor of the Farmer:—The Agricultural press has had much to say of the benefit to be derived by our farmers by increasing the number of their crops, so that if one fails, they will have others to fall back upon. This subject should be pressed upon the attention of our farmers. We have tried wheat as a great staple, and in its failure all have suffered. Now my opinion is that if we had succeeded with our large wheat crops for the two last years, they would not have paid as well as good crops of corn. Wheat is not high in the Eastern markets. Although the crops last year was confessedly short, the prices in New York would scarcely justify the wheat operators in the West to buy, at low prices, wheat for shipping. The truth is, wheat raising will not pay well here unless there is a war, or short crops in Europe, to raise the prices. Europe don't want our wheat when she has good crop seasons. This fact shows that our farmers are leaning on a frail support when they expect to derive benefits from an European market. Our farmers here as a whole, would have been better off now, had they never received war prices for their wheat.

Central Illinois is a stock country.—Good farming here will always raise food for raising and fattening stock.—Cultivate well and you can do this. Contract your farms. Do your farm work well and it will pay. The best farms in the world are in Belgium; and fifteen acres of land there is considered a good farm. Every inch of it is cultivated, no waste grounds; no crops drowned out by standing water. The farmer can go to work on his farm an hour after a heavy rain.

One fact I desire to suggest? What farmers among us best pay their store debts and have money to lend to their neighbors? They are the snug farmers—who have small farms and cultivate them well. HOMO.

"Less Land and Better Culture."

Editor of the Farmer:—A friend sent me some days ago the "Wisconsin Farmer," a monthly agricultural paper, published at Madison Wisconsin. I was

struck with a remark in the first article I read. It was headed "Less land and better culture," and, said the editor, "If we had a voice like a trumpet, that might be heard all over our State, our first utterance would be, '*Farmers content yourselves with such farms as you can thoroughly cultivate.*'"

That's the doctrine, Mr. Editor! We have wasted our labor and lost our crops and got our lands into a bad state, by our system of cultivation. Unless blasted with frost, or hail, or hurricane, we can make crops every year, of such as are suited to our climate and soil, by thorough cultivation. And to do this, we must so drain our lands, that the water will run off from them. We must plow deep, so that the roots of plants can go down deep if weather be dry, and if wet so that water may be encouraged to settle and get out of the way. Whenever you are working upon land where you find water by going down two feet, that ground should be drained.

Why is it that the English Farmer, always produces crops, and often double and treble the amount we obtain from our rich soils? This is done by thorough cultivation. If his land is wet and soggy, he underdrains it, and he plows it deep and well—not content with a six inch deep plowing, but he goes down twelve inches. His grounds dry and light, he harrows and works them until the soil is as fine as that of the best gardens. Then with good after culture, he is sure of good crops.

In the Farmer, I think of last October there was a notice of what one farmer had done by plowing a portion of his corn land with that excellent implement the Michigan Double Plow. He said that on the land on which he used that plow, his corn yielded more than fifteen bushels an acre over other corn grounds on which he had used the common plow. He said he was well paid for the extra labor of his team, and it gave him a little insight of what could be produced by thorough cultivation.

Is there any reason why our corn field should not yield 80 or 100 bushels of corn to the acre, when even in Michigan and New York, thorough cultivation enables farmers there to raise more than 100 bushels of corn to the acre? Would it not be better for us to raise 100 bushels of corn on one acre than on three acres? Better to grow seventy bushels of oats on an acre than on two acres? Better to grow 250 bushels of potatoes on an acre than to grow forty, and perhaps not that?

I know it is hard to change old habits; but this is an age of enquiry and an age of improvement. I fully subscribe to the sentiment of the Wisconsin Editor, and would raise my humble voice in echoing his declaration—"Farmers content your-

selves with farms of such size as you can thoroughly cultivate." W.

Breeding Ewes.

We find in a late number of the Mark Lane Express, an article in relation to the selection, care and management of breeding ewes, from which we extract such portions as are of most interest to American breeders:

The acquiring and maintaining a flock of ewes in good and uniform condition and character requires a vast amount of judgment and perseverance, combined with care and attention; judgment in selecting that breed or description which will give the greatest return, taking into consideration the soil and situation where they are to be kept, also in choosing male animals that will rectify and improve the imperfections of the ewes; care and attention are also necessary in drawing the ewes to that ram which appears most calculated to correct their faults, persevering in this course till they become of one uniform character; that is, not resting satisfied before you obtain them as near alike as possible as regards symmetry, description of wool, and general appearance, it being well known that an even matching lot of ewes is highly appreciated, and commands a better price in market than motley or mongrel-looking ones. The ewe should have a straight and broad back, wide loins, deep breast, good neck (or scrag, as termed by some,) the head rather long but not broad, an open cheerful countenance crowned with a tuft of wool, which not only adds to its beauty, but is in a measure a preventive of sore head, and last, not least, a robust hardy constitution. I will commence with or at about the time of weaning the lambs—a period that must be partially regulated by circumstances, as how you are provided with proper and suitable food to keep them in a healthy and thriving state, as also if there is any tendency to scour, if so, the sooner in reason they are removed from their dams the better, a change of the system which is most effectually accomplished by a change of food—being the likeliest means of checking it. In an ordinary way I believe the first or second week in June to be as good a time as any; this will allow of having the ewes washed and shorn. A few days should then intervene for them to get accustomed to the loss of their coats or at any rate the weaning of the lambs should take place at as great a time as possible from the shearing of the ewes, either as long before or as long after; for if they take cold at this time, it is more than probable it will fly to the udder, producing inflammation, which often turns to mortification, and generally ends in the death of the ewe. I prefer

deferring the weaning till after the shearing, as it cannot well take place soon enough for the milk to subside to any great degree; consequently the udder would be very susceptible of injury, and which may occur in washing or shearing I do think (unless especial care is taken in driving to the place of washing, and allowing them to get cool before commencing) this to be the most dangerous operation of the two. Again; if the lambs are allowed to remain a few days after shearing, they take cold; the lamb's sucking would in some measure be a means of preventing its spreading to that extent it otherwise would. On removing the ewes they should be put into a bare pasture, and at a distance, where the bleating cannot be heard by either; otherwise both will be much excited, taking a longer time to settle and content themselves. After a day or two the udders should be carefully attended to, and those that are full and hard—causing stiffness in the ewes' walking—should be occasionally milked. As soon as they have forgotten their lambs, and the milk is reabsorbed, I believe it a good plan to dip them in a solution of arsenic, soft soap, pearl-ash, and black brimstone, to free them from the irritation and annoyance of insects.

Blood Horses.

A writer in the *Spirit of the Times* says: The following are some of the many reasons why the stock bred, or warm blooded racer, is vastly superior to, and more valuable than the stock of the common horse:

1st. They have more and better brains, or more sense—more intelligence—and their disposition is more kind and tractable.

2d. When properly viewed they have a refining and elevating influence—man with his refined sensibilities has semi-socialized the horse, and now he seems to be happy, as he shares the kind feeling and ministers to the happiness of man: "As a man soweth so shall he also reap;" where Deity creates, 'tis surely man's dignity to cultivate.

3d. They are more free from disease; their action is more free and elastic; their form is more beautiful; and their carriage is more elegant and showy.

4th. They are more active and can endure excessive heat much better. A fine blood horse can travel long distances rapidly in the hottest weather, when a common horse would probably fall dead under the same exercise.

5th. They live to a much greater age. A common horse rarely lives to be of any service beyond fifteen or sixteen years of age, but a high-bred, warm-blooded one is fit for good service for a much longer time, if he has been treated as every man ought to use his horse—some so-called men are greater brutes than their horses.

6th. Their superior strength, ability to carry heavy weights, and endure under it; their courage and bravery, fleetness and durability, render them far more efficient for cavalry, express, or general purposes, in the precise rates that they are judiciously im-

bued with pure blood; invariably evincing more gratitude to, and attachment for, a kind master. Pause candid reader, and look for a moment at the evidence to sustain this proposition; the weight carried by an English hunting horse varies from 182 to 288 pounds; this must be borne over all inequalities of ground, hedges, ditches, and every other obstruction, and nothing but pure blood, with sufficient height and reach, can carry the weight, go the pace and do the work quite well.

In the days of English staging, coaches containing from twelve to fifteen passengers, in addition to the guard and coachman, and from half a ton to a ton and a half of baggage, were driven from fifteen to seventeen miles an hour. The horses by which such heavy and rapid work was done were as *nearly thorough bred* as could possibly be procured: nothing but these could have done it once. That speed and power the people demanded before railroads were formed: it had to be done, and it was effected by there being thorough bred horses found and applied to staging purposes. The average weight of an English huzzar, or light Dragoon, accoutred and in heavy marching order, is 250 pounds; that of a heavy Dragoon, 280 pounds, and that of a light guardsman, or cuirassier, 308 pounds.—Great power is of course required to carry these ponderous masses, but great speed is also required to move them, for unless they can be launched at a tremendous rate, all the horses being so equal in their pace and stride that the line is kept perfectly dressed and even to the moment when the shock is to be given, the charge is a failure. To attain this immense power and great speed, even for a short time under such crushing weight, in the actual charge, and to combine with it the power of staying long distances, coming again quickly, moving actively, and enduring severe distress, nothing but the highest possible degree of blood that can be combined with bone, size, shape, and action, sufficient to endure such weight, can succeed at all. This can be and is obtained by the crossing choice blood stallions of the proper build and style on proper selected mares to the second or third generation. In the Russian war the light brigade of Lord Cardigan, which made that prodigious charge and retreat, each of a mile and a half, were mounted on horses that were three parts blood. It is safe to say had they only been half-bred, not one horse would have got back into the British lines, and if they had not possessed any pure blood at all, they would all have been cut down before they reached the Russian batteries.

The heavy brigade of Brigadier General Scarlett, which rode through the Russian troopers in fourfold force, as if they had been lines of paste-board, were mounted on chargers having two crosses of pure blood, or as nearly as possible.

Nothing but *blood* could have accomplished either feat; and it is well to remember that when cavalry in the deadly shock—both being equally brave and equally well led—that cavalry which is horsed on chargers of the same weight, but of inferior blood and stride, must go down like grass before the scythe. On the turf contending

against each other, on the field of battle facing the death dealing column, on the road that heavy weights with great speed, or under the saddle with heavy weights and long continued high speed, we are convinced by authentic records or observation, of the superior power and speed, endurance and courage, sagacity and attachment of the thorough breds, and that they only being well qualified for the above uses, they are the best able to do *any thing else*. This is the pride and triumph of blood, that it can do *every thing* for which it is intended *quite well*, and nothing short of it can do so.

7th. The horse having and exhibiting evidences of his kindred to the pure blood horse will always command a higher price in the market. Ignorance, prejudice, and various other causes, prompt some *men* to cry down *blood*, yet these very same—in nearly every instance where they have a horse to sell or advertise, take a very short trace to some noted thoroughbred, or exhibit him at an agricultural fair with a *manufactured pedigree* of a "blacksmith shop bill." We have had "thoroughbred horses" (?) not a thousand miles away, that were represented as no less than the great grand-son of the great English Eclipse himself, and they only about three years of age. There's a better day a coming, the day already dawns, the shadows flee away. Truth crushed to earth will rise again. To a lover of a horse his financial value is only a nominal or secondary consideration, he loves him for his own sake; to him "a thing of beauty is a joy forever;" others regard in their horse great bulk without corresponding excellence, and matter regardless of life or spirit. Let such a one study this subject, search the records, weigh the evidence, reason calmly, and decide with an impartial and unprejudiced mind; not like the man that may say,—"I won't believe if you do convince me."

The true office and utility of the thorough bred horse is to raise the standard of speed, spirit, and endurance, which can result *only from blood*, in horses for all and for every purpose—the road, the hunting field, the shock of the battle, if we must have war; or pomp, show and beauty; for speed, for courage, for heavy, long-continued every-day service, and if bountifully fed, well groomed, carefully housed, and well driven, will endure for many years. To breed judiciously from thoroughbred horses will raise the progeny in excellence, utility, longevity, style, action, beauty, appearance and value; confine your breeding to grade stock, and instead of improvement, or even "holding your own," your stock will go downwards all the time.

Editor of the Farmer:—I have been told that stock in various parts of the State are suffering much for want of food, and that many have perished of starvation.—This does not speak much in favor of man's humanity. We know that winter always follows summer and autumn, and that sometimes we have long and severe winters, in which large stores of fodder are required for stock. Every farmer knows these facts, and he knows, too, that the spring, summer and autumn seasons are the time when the food for cattle must be provided. Our soils will produce every kind of food required for stock. If one variety fails, another can be

had. It will not do to depend on one crop either to make money, or to make food for stock. Timothy is a good crop here; other grasses yield also good crops for pay. The Italian Millet seldom fails yielding a good crop, and it can be sown in June.—The Hungarian Millet also produces heavy crops. Sugar Cane, sowed broadcast, in June, gives a heavy yield of most valuable food for stock. Indian corn will also do the same. When the crop of corn is likely to be short, there is no necessity of our standing about with our hands in our breeches pockets, growling over bad weather and bad luck, and letting the time to pass without an effort to make winter food for our cattle. I hope the lesson we are now experiencing, will learn us the folly of this do-nothing policy, and attributing to providence the evils we bring on ourselves. M. S.

The Best Whitewash that we Know of.

The arrival of the house-cleaning and house-repairing season, and several recent inquiries, remind us to again refer to that first-rate in-door white-wash we described last June. Nearly a year's trial has confirmed all we said of it. Our house ceilings, and the walls where not papered, which received one coat last May, are now as white as after a usual fresh coat of lime, and we have not been in the least trouble with its "rubbing off." The numerous published receipts, to the contrary notwithstanding, we believe no preparation of lime or other material will adhere well without the addition of the glue, oil or varnish. The latter two articles are expensive, and caustic lime mixed with glue will soon change its color. White chalk is *uncaustic* lime, (carbonate of lime, and this substance is the best substitute for lime, as a white-wash. A very fine and brilliant white, washed preparation of chalk is called "*Paris White*." This we buy at the paint stores for three cents a pound, retail. For each sixteen pounds of Paris White, we procure half a pound of the white transparent glue, costing twenty-five cents (fifty cents per pound). The sixteen pounds of Paris White is about as much as a person will use in a day. It is prepared as follows:

The glue is covered with cold water at night, and in the morning is carefully heated, without scorching, until dissolved. The Paris White is stirred with hot water enough to give it the proper milky consistence for applying to the walls, and the dissolved glue is then added and thoroughly mixed. It is then applied with a brush like the common lime whitewash. Except on very dark and smoky walls and ceilings, a single coat is sufficient. It is nearly equal in brilliancy to "zinc white," a far more expensive article. Let the readers of the *American Agriculturist*, try this method the present Spring, on a room or two at least, and we think they will not use lime thereafter. It is, of course, a little more expensive than common lime, but is cheaper in the end, on account of its better color, greater permanence, and firm adherence to the plastering. At least, such is our experience.—*American Agriculturist*.

CAMELS—THEIR STRENGTH.—We visited Parson's wharf to witness a feat of strength performed by one of Mr. Watson's

camels, of which there were near a dozen on the wharf of all ages. The camel loaded was one of the largest. On the word of command being given, the camel lay down ready to receive his load, which consisted of five bales of hay, weighing in the aggregate over 1400 pounds, which was firmly bound to the pannier placed upon the animal's hump. Upon the utterance of command by the native keeper, the huge animal arose without any apparent effort to his feet and walked off in a stately manner along the wharf and through the city. We were informed that the same camel had 1600 pounds placed upon him, with which enormous weight he arose. The animals are all exceedingly tractable, and seem to possess much affection for any one who treats them kindly, as an example of which Mrs. W. informs us that one of them, a pretty white one, which she had petted, would always kiss her, when she was within kissing distance, which fact we really thought, certainly proved the animal to possess an excellent taste, as well as an affectionate disposition. In their native country the average load for a full grown camel is some 800 pounds, with which they perform their long journeys over deserts, with but little food or water.

We doubt not with the abundant forage found in all parts of Texas, and a full supply of water generally, the camel will improve in strength and general appearance, and be able to transport larger loads, at a more rapid pace, than in his native country.—*Galveston News*.

Goodale & Co. Circular for April.

CLEVELAND WOOL DEPOT.

DEAR SIR.—Our receipts for the past month have been confined mostly to pulled wools with a few medium clips. We think that the fine clips through Ohio and the West are closed out. We quote:

Fancy clip at.....	65
Full blood.....	55
Three-fourths blood.....	50
One-half blood.....	47
One-fourth blood.....	44
Common.....	41

These prices for domestic wools are very fully sustained, whilst pulled wools in our market have declined, with less demand.—The city pullers, however, have very small stocks on hand and we notice a very marked decline in sheep pelts, as some of our pelt buyers have been largely engaged in purchasing skunk pelts which during the warm days of March have declined in price. It would not be surprising if this strong declining favor of this new article of commerce had some influence in working down the price of sheep pelts.

There seems to be an absence of the usual number of Eastern buyers in the field and the cause of the decline in price of sheep pelts may perhaps more properly be attributed to decline in pulled wool.

We quote

Extra pulled at.....	50
Super.....	42
No. 1.....	37

Contracts for the new clip have been confined to certain localities in this State, which have been made at from 37 to 61 cents, not so much according to quality of wools as contractor's views.

White Beans.

Editor of the Farmer :—As one of the crops which should be raised in our State, mention may be made of White Beans. If cultivated with system, and with an understanding of all the wants required for the successful growing of this crop, a good yield may be expected.—Beans usually bring a fair price. I have known them sell for \$3 a bushel and also for 75 cents a bushel.

Prairie the second season after breaking, is usually good land for beans. It is then light and clean from weeds.—The seed can be drilled in, in rows three feet apart, and about three inches between the plants. They will come up readily, and, with the soil I mention, free of weeds, they will require but little care. Our lands are all rich enough indeed, they are richer for beans, without manure, than is desirable. When the Beans are up four inches, the cultivator should pass between the rows. If there are weeds among the beans, they should be weeded out. This cultivation should be repeated, perhaps twice. But a farmer can be a judge of the necessity of this. Beans should never be worked when the dew is on the plants or when they are wet with rain.

There are many varieties of Beans used for field cultivation. The large White Kidney, is a strong growing variety, and yields tolerably well. The White Marrowfat or White Crawberry, is a large round bean, yields well, and is the best bean for eating. This bean does not require rich land. The White Navy Bean is smaller, and is a capital field bean. The White Yankee, or Soup Bean, is the smallest variety, and if the season is dry, yields well. If the season be wet, it runs a good deal to vines.

Beans should be gathered in dry weather. It is all important to this crop that they be bright and clean for market. This will not be the case unless great care is taken in gathering the beans.—The vines, or holm, should be pulled in good weather, should be dried and kept from dampness until the Beans are threshed out. BEAN HILL.

Union Fairs.

Editor of the Farmer :—Why cannot Union Fairs, to be gotten up by the Agricultural Societies, of three or four adjoining Counties, be made useful? It is too late to agitate this subject for the present year, but some thoughts may properly be given to it. A Union Fair in which the counties of Sangamon, Morgan, Macoupin, Menard, Lincoln and Macon, and perhaps some others, could unite, would be a grand affair. The first Fair could be held in Morgan or Sangamon and then could travel all around so as to embrace every county

named. It seems to me that the measure would get up a great interest, second only to that of the State Fair.

By another season every county I have named will be on a Railroad, and stock and other articles for Exhibition could be transported to the Union Fair ground by the cars, and visitors could also reach the Fair by Railroad from all the counties. I cannot doubt that the Railroads would find it for their interest to furnish for these fairs the usual facilities they extend to the State Fairs.

The arrangements for these fairs would be made by the Agricultural Society of the county where they should be held. They should be at all the expense of preparation, and should be entitled to proceeds—after paying expenses. It would then be the interest of the county having the Fair, to make all due preparation for the Fair, and secure such competition and attendance as would do the county credit, make the fair useful, and furnish the "material aid," so necessary in all such enterprises. "UNION."

For the Illinois Farmer.

Natural History.

INSECTS.

MURPHYSBORO, Jackson Co. Ill. April 12th, 1859.

As the grasshoppers are beginning to make their appearance, I select them as the subject of this article, not in the order we find them in the books, but as they are appearing this season.

The insects we commonly call "grasshoppers" belong to the families *Gryllidae* and *Socustidae*; of the order *Orthoptera* distinguished from each others by the long antennae and exerted ovipositor of the former, while in the latter family the antennae are shorter than the body and the ovipositor wanting.

Fetrix is the name of a genus belonging to the family *Socustidae*, which was established by *Labreille*, and distinguished by the enlarged prothorax, which like a horny shield extends back over the entire abdomen, and terminates in a point, and by the small wing covers which are reduced to little scales on the sides of the body. All of our species of this genus are small, none exceeding three fourths of an inch in length while some are less than half an inch long.

The determination of the species of this genus is difficult, on account of the dull colors, numerous variations, &c. and to show this I may state that *Tatlerstedt* described eighteen species, which *Charpentier* reduced to two. *Westwood* in his "Synopsis of British genus" gives three species, *Serville* in "Hist. Nat. describes *Orthoptres*" which is intended to give all known species describes but ten; yet Dr. Harris gives as many as eight species, found in Massachusetts.

Following the arrangement of Dr.

Harris, we may divide this genus into two divisions.

1. Those with the antennae 13 or 14 jointed; angles prominent, prothorax extending beyond the abdomen, nearly flat on the top.

2. Those with the antennae 22 jointed; angles not prominent, prothorax somewhat heeled.

Those of the first division appear to vary in their size and coloring more than those of the second; of these I have discovered this season the following species.

T. ornata. Dark ash-colored; with a large white patch on top of the prothorax between four small black spots. Length slightly over half an inch. Sometimes white spot varies to pale purple.

T. dorsalis. Underside sooty; sides and legs washed with pale streaks; on the prothorax opposite the lateral angles a large rusty-red patch, rest of the prothorax pale ochre-colored. Length half an inch.

T. bilineata. Ash-colored; prothorax marked by a double whitish line, after uniting into one, and extending from the head to the end of the prothorax, widest in front, narrowing to the middle and then expanding, having a dark triangular patch on each side at the lateral angles of the prothorax. Length about two fifths of an inch.

T. quadrimaculata. Dark gray above variegated with dark or black spots, four black spots, near the lateral angles two in front and two behind; latter largest; wings in this and all the preceding species, equal to exceed the prothorax. Length less than half an inch.

Among the specimens belonging to this first division, which I have found are some varying considerably from either of the above descriptions and yet do not agree with either of Dr. Harris' other species.

Some with the back of an entire dull ashy color; others an ashy purple; others variegated with ochre-yellow, grey and black, others with the back almost entirely white. All these species and varieties correspond in having the lateral portions of the prothorax depressed and rough at the neck, also of a muddy greenish color; the back of the prothorax almost flat, marked by an elevated line running lengthwise in the middle, and the prothorax is also slightly elevated at the extremity. Dr. Harris says that when young, these are heeled on the back.

Belonging to the second division I have found two well marked species also a wide variety of one of the species.

T. lateralis. Sides black, eyes black, thorax pale clay-colored, slightly heeled. posterior thighs, face and lower edge of pronotum pale ochre-colored; wing-cov-

ers with a minute elevated silvery spot at the tips, abdomen yellow beneath, wings extend considerably beyond the prothorax, and the prothorax beyond the abdomen, the polpi of a pearly white.—Of this species I have a variety with every part a deep black that in the foregoing is whitish except the face, popi and sides of the prothorax. but exactly agreeing in every other particular.—Length half an inch.

The other species does not correspond with any given by Dr. Harris, though very similar in shape and color to the *T. parvipennis*, but the thorax extends beyond the abdomen and the wings beyond the thorax, and it is full three-fourths of an inch in length. But as none have appeared yet, and those specimens I saved last season have faded, I will not at present attempt a description.

As further proof of the difficulty of distinguishing between varieties and species, I may add that of the *T. bipunctata*, one of the most common European species, *Phillippi* (*Orthop. Berol.*) gives no less than thirteen varieties, while of the same *Tetterstedt* (*Orthop. Suec.*) another very common European species, the former author give twelve varieties, and the latter divides it into five species.—This species is very similar, in the description by *Serville*, to Dr. Harris' *T. Sordida*, and some of the varieties given come very near his *bilineata*.

These insects are generally found in sandy spots, road-sides, or in places where the weeds or grass are thinly scattered over the ground. They do not appear to be very injurious to useful vegetation, seeming to prefer spots where such plants as the knot-weed grow.—They live over the winter either in the pupa or perfect state, probably the latter, as they appear so soon perfectly developed, and their colors not so bright as in the latter part of the season.

C. T.

NOTE.—By some mistake, the copy of this valuable communication was lost after the proof was taken. We apprehend that it will be found to contain errors; for which the author is not responsible.

RHUBARB WINE.—At a meeting of the Farmer's Club in New York, "Solon Robinson announced that he had a bottle of Native Wine that very strongly resembled Sherry, which he would offer to the ladies and gentlemen in the beautiful silver goblet which "the friends of progress in Connecticut presented him for telling them they could better grow grapes than corn upon their hard, rocky hillsides." This wine was drunk with great satisfaction, and highly praised; and then he told those who admired its good qualities that it was made from the juice of rhubarb (pie plant,) at the rate of 800 gallons per acre in Wisconsin."

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, MAY 1, 1859.

The Potatoe Crop.

The value of the potatoe crop is rarely estimated by our farmers. Within the last fifteen years, the consumption has been greatly increased. It is an acceptable food in all forms in which it is prepared at every meal. It *ought* to be a cheap food; and if it were cheap, it would greatly lessen the expenses of families. A few years ago there seemed to be no difficulty in procuring good crops in Central Illinois. They were rarely affected by the rot, and their quality was excellent. The pink eyes and the Irish Greys were the leading varieties, and they were of good size and as fine as could be desired. Afterwards other varieties were introduced—such as the Boston Blues, White Neshannocks, Mercers, Peach Blows, Kidneys, Jackson Red Eye, White Mexicans—several of which proved to be good, though the seasons were unfavorable, and some are yet on probation, promising well.

We do believe that potatoes can yet be made a productive crop in Central Illinois. Probably grounds the second year from the prairie would suit them best, but if old grounds are well managed they can be made to yield well. The feeding grounds of stock—the use of which may be dispensed with in summer—make valuable grounds for potatoes. These grounds are usually dry—they ought to be so; they become rich by the deposits of manure—the weeds, except, perhaps, “Jimsons,” are mostly destroyed—and when properly plowed and harrowed are light and in the best order. They may be laid off in drills by the plow; the seed potatoes cut so as not to leave more than two eyes to the piece (one is quite as well) and these pieces planted in the drills six inches apart and covered with the plow. The cultivator plowing through between the rows will destroy most of the weeds, and if they appear in the drills they must be pulled out by hand. We have known good crops raised on such prepared ground, and with very reasonable expense. Many farmers undoubtedly have other systems of raising potatoes, which are successful.

The public generally are greatly in-

terested in this crop. It is wanted for home consumption. Twenty-five and thirty cents per bushel pays well wherever good crops can be had by ordinary culture. Within a few of the last years the cities of Central Illinois have been supplied with this esculent from the Northern part of the State, at a price ranging from seventy-five cents to two dollars per bushel.

The amount of consumption in our cities is rarely calculated. For instance in Sangamon county, there is a city which would naturally receive her supplies from the County, of 15,000 inhabitants. Would not the consumption average five bushels to each individual, if they could be had as plentifully as desired? If so, here is a demand, alone, in the city of Springfield, for 75,000 bushels of potatoes! What a valuable market for the farmers of Sangamon county?

These facts suggest other thoughts. The population of this country is increasing more rapidly than farm productions designed for consumption at home. It is a fact well known to every housekeeper that many of the productions of the farm required for the consumption of families, are with difficulty obtained, at fair living prices—we mean prices which families can afford to pay, and which ought to pay producers well. Here, in Springfield, butter is bringing 35 cents per pound, and quick at that price; potatoes \$1 40 per bushel; corn meal \$1 cents per bushel; flour \$3 per hundred pounds; lard 12½ cents per pound; apples \$2 per bushel; white beans \$1 60 cents per bushel; hams 12½ cents per pound, &c., &c.

Look at our fertile lands, our rich pastures, and ask why is this? We know that we shall be told of the bad seasons and failure of crops. Then we ask you to visit the farmer—who has a farm of 160 acres—and half of that well improved—who cultivates many staples—has his small dairy—a reasonable number of hogs and other stock—who has a good sized potatoe patch, works it well—who has a reasonable number of acres of corn, one who drains his ground and cultivates well—look over his meadows, where he gets a good yield of timothy—his acres of Hungarian grass—all these and other crops well cared for—who does not pine and grumble in bad weather, but always has some profitable employment, and you will find even now that such farmers are holding their own and many of them are making money.

These crops, these products, are mainly neglected by those who seek to fill their purses by raising their hundreds of acres of wheat and corn. They are not satisfied with small and handsome gains, and living comfortably and in a plain way, living independently. They

want to cultivate large fields, counting by hundreds of acres—looking for large crops and fortunes at once! How sadly are many disappointed. Their large fields cannot be relied on for crops until they are drained, and they cannot be drained from the profits of the crops raised upon them, without draining, for years, if ever.

The Robin.

Notwithstanding the general regard the public have for the Robin, many fruit growers within the last few years have imbibed great prejudices against him, regarding him as of very serious injury to fruits. At a meeting of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in January, 1858, a resolution was offered by E. S. Rand, jr., to the effect that a petition be presented to the State Legislature for the repeal of the laws which prohibit the taking and killing of this bird. On the presentation of the resolution, an animated discussion took place—the result of which was that a committee was appointed to make a thorough investigation of the habits of the Robin, Prof. Jenks, Chairman.

At the last January meeting, Prof. Jenks made his report to the society.—His investigations were very thorough. Beginning with the first week of March, 1858, he obtained and examined specimens at least *weekly*, and most of the time *daily*, to December, and during the winter months. The following are the results reported:

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.

First. Early in March, numbers of this bird made their appearance in this vicinity; but, until the second week in April, only the male birds.

Second. The gizzards of those killed in the morning were, as a rule, either entirely empty, or but partially distended with food, *well macerated*; while those killed in the latter part of the day were as uniformly filled with food freshly taken.

Third. From the almost daily examination of their gizzards, from the early part of March to the first of May, not a particle of vegetable matter was found in the gizzard of a single bird. On the contrary, insects in great variety, both as to number and kind, as well as in every variety of condition as to growth and development, were the sole food.

But nine-tenths of the aggregate mass of food thus collected during this period consisted of *one* kind of larva, which, through the aid of Baron Ostensacken, Secretary of the Russian Legation at Washington, I was enabled to identify

as the *Bibio albipennis*, Say, and whose history and habits, by the aid of Dr. Asa Fitch, entomologist of the New York State Agricultural society, I was enabled to make out quite satisfactorily.

From one to two hundred of this larva were frequently taken from a single gizzard, all in a fresh, unmacerated condition; and usually, when this larva was found, it was the only food in the stomach.

To quote from a communication received from Dr. Fitch, he says, "My attention was first directed to this fly some twelve years ago, when I was occupied in investigating the wheat midge. I observed it to be so very common in fields of growing wheat that I suspected it of living at the expense of that grain crop; but on looking around I found it was equally as common everywhere else—resting upon the grass, leaves, and flowers in my yard and garden, as well as in meadows, pastures, and forests. *

* * * * It comes abroad about the 20th of May, and continues about a fortnight. You will readily recognize it by its commonness, and its white transparent wings; its body being black, clothed with soft white hairs. It is very sluggish, moving around but little, and is easily picked up by the fingers. *

* * On page 764 of the London Gardener's Chronicle of the year 1844, is a valuable article of Ruricola, (J. O. Westwood,) giving a full history of the *Bibio Marci*, the European analogue of the one in question. 'It appears these insects (unlike most others of the family Tipulidæ to which they pertain) are most pernicious, the larva feeding upon the roots of plants, sometimes to such an extent as to cause them to wither and die. Ruricola states that the larva of the *Marci*, and other allied species of *Bibio*, are frequently sent to him by gardeners, who find them to be mischievous in their strawberry beds, vine borders, flower pots, and other situations where the soil remains undisturbed during the autumn and spring.' And another writer, Bouche says, 'that his bed of ranunculuses was completely demolished, for several successive years, by these worms eating the roots.' From these facts every one will perceive that the robin, consuming, as you found it to do, from one to two hundred of the *Bibio* larva daily, during the months of March and April, has probably been ridding our gardens of these vermin every year hitherto; thus rendering us an important service, of which we have been wholly unaware.—The larva are gregarious; living together in swarms, and perforating the ground so that it resembles a honeycomb.

This is probably caused by the parent fly depositing her whole stock of eggs in one spot, she being too lazy and slothful to wander about and distribute them in

different places. Hence the robin on finding one of these worms, knows that there is a host of others at the same place, and thus repairs to that spot, day after day, and gluts himself with them till the whole colony is exterminated."

To this extract I may be allowed to add, that my own observations, during the past year, confirm the conclusions of Dr. Fitch respecting this larva in every particular, having found its colonies in November, and observed the fly in early summer. I may also here introduce an extract from a communication of a lady friend, under date of Oct. 7, 1858. She says: "On speaking of your remarks concerning the food of the robin, at the Teacher's Association at Bridgewater, in June last, to my father, he told me of a little circumstance which I thought just proved your statement. It was formerly the custom to have a shooting match on election day in May. On such an occasion in North Bridgewater, about the year 1820, a great many birds were killed, so many that a man bought them by the cart-load for the purpose of enriching his land. In consequence, there was a great scarcity of birds in that vicinity, and a great amount of grass land seemed to be injured, but from what cause no one knew. The grass withered and turned dark-colored, as though it had been burnt, commencing in small tufts and spreading in large circles." It would seem that the insect under consideration would, growing undisturbed, produce precisely this result.

Fourth. During the month of May, the *Bibio* larva entirely disappeared from the gizzards, but, up to the 21st of June, was replaced by a variety of insects or worms only, including spiders, caterpillars, and beetles, of the family of Elateridæ, the parents of the well known wire-worms, so destructive to corn and various other seeds when committed to the ground.

The earth-worm I found to be a favorite food for the young bird, but sparingly employed by the adult for its own use.

Fifth. From the date of June 21st, I began to find strawberries, cherries, and pulpy fruit generally, but in a majority of the examinations intermingled with insects, which led me to conclude that they were not fond of an exclusively vegetable diet, but rather adopted it as a dessert, and from the ease of procuring it, particularly during the enervating season of moulting. At this season of the year, I discovered a marked difference in the food of the birds killed near or in the village, and those killed in the country at a distance from gardens and fruit trees, the latter having less of stone fruit and more of insects in their gizzards, which led me to conclude that the robin is not an extensive forager.

Sixth. The mixed diet of the robin seems to continue from the ripening of the strawberries and cherries to October, the vegetable portion consisting, during August and September, in great part of elderberries (*Sambucus canadensis*) and pokeberries (*Phytolacca decandra*.)

Seventh. During the month of October the vegetable diet is wholly discarded, and its place supplied by grasshoppers and orthopterous insects generally.

Eighth. Early in November the robin migrates southward—the few remaining eking out a miserable existence, during the winter months, on bay berries (*Myrica cerifera*), privet berries (*Ligustrum vulgare*), and juniper berries (*Juniperus communis*.)

Having entered upon this investigation unprejudiced, I have only sought for the facts as observation should develop them, and these are the results to which I have arrived at no small expenditure of time and labor. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. P. JENKS, Ch'r.

MIDDLEBORO', Mass., March 5, 1859.

After this investigation we hope the Robin will again come into general favor. He occasionally, it is true, takes a few of our strawberries and cherries, but he destroys thousands upon thousands of insects which are injurious to useful vegetation. We shall not grudge him the small amount of fruit he takes from us, while we know that his habits otherwise are all for the benefit of the Farmer.

INFLUENCE OF THE MOON.—It is stoutly contended by some that the moon has a great influence upon newly planted crops, making soap, and even it is orthodox in some parts of New England to believe that pork killed in the increase of the moon will swell in boiling, while if killed when that planet is waning, the pork will shrink while undergoing the culinary preparation. The learned Japanese insist that epidemics are more general and fatal during the full moon than at any other period—that less rain and snow fall during the full moon than at any other time, and that more rain and snow fall, and more heavy storms occur in the last quarter of the moon, than at any other given time. They graft their trees, trim their shrubbery and house plants during the decrease of the moon, for they hold that the moon, during its decrease, exercises a healthful and healing influence upon the incisions made upon all animal and vegetable

life. The farmers of Japan, however, although they pay great respect to the changes of the moon, depend on making crops by manuring and high cultivation. Their farms are small farms, and they are well tilled.

Carrots.

We do not expect that our farmers will readily go into the cultivation of root crops, as food for stock. Some may do it, and find themselves well paid for their labor; others will regard the work to make the crop as requiring too much labor, and of a kind that does not suit them. Time, however, will work a change in the minds of small farmers.

There is no root crop so valuable for stock as carrots; and there can be grown in large quantities, without a vast expenditure of labor. A light loamy soil, plowed deep, say fifteen inches, with the double Michigan plow, suit them exactly. The ground should be rich.—The light Orange and White Belgian are the kinds mostly cultivated.

Allen's "Book of the Farm" gives the proper mode of preparing the seed and planting:

"The carrot should be sown in drills, 16 to 20 inches apart, when the ground has become warm and dry. The seed is best prepared by mixing with fine mold or poudrette, and stirring it well together to break off the fine beards; then sprinkle with water and allow it to remain in a warm place, and occasionally turn it to produce equal development in the seed. It may remain ten or fifteen days before sowing, and till nearly ready to sprout. It then readily germinates, and does not allow the weeds to get the start. The frequent use of the cultivator and entire cleanliness from weeds, are all that is necessary to insure a crop. Two pounds of good seed will sow an acre. Any deficiency of plants may be supplied by transplanting in moist weather. Six inches is near enough for the smaller kind to stand, and eight for the larger. They are subject to few diseases or enemies, excepting such as can be avoided by judicious selection of soil and careful tillage."

The ground should be kept clear of weeds. The yield is sometimes extraordinary. From 400 to 600 bushels are a common crop. In New York much larger crops have been raised. In the transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society for 1856, is the statement of I. Brodie, in regard to a crop raised by him. The land had been originally

a mirey swale. He underdrained it, and after sowing a crop of corn, he planted it to carrots. The seed was put in with a seed drill. The yield from the measured acre was 1,600 bushels, weighing 60 lbs. to the bushel. The cost of seed, growing the crop, and rent of land, was \$49 21.

THE VERBENA.—A few years since, we had only two or three varieties of this flower, and they are now counted by hundreds, besides, the new varieties are much more beautiful than the old. They are green house plants, and are kept with great difficulty through the winter in pots in the parlor or sitting room. But such is the extent of their cultivation in the green houses that they can be purchased at such small prices, that it would not pay families to grow them through the winter, to transplant into their gardens, if it was practical. They can be bought at the Green Houses in the season of planting out at a dollar a dozen; and a dozen will embrace a sufficient number of varieties to make a handsome display.

If you desire to make the Verbenas flower in the finest manner, the Verbena beds must be dug up in the fall, by throwing the soil into high ridges and spreading over it a coating of wood ashes, and upon these, old and well decomposed stable manure. The larva of worms is thus destroyed and the soil becomes well pulverized. In the spring the manure must be worked in. The beds should not be made so high as to cause plants to suffer from drought. The plants should be strong and planted out as soon as the weather will permit, so that they can get a good start before hot weather comes on. If the ground becomes dry, thoroughly, water the plants every other evening.

LOCUSTS.—Our advice is not to plant the seeds of the locust in Central Illinois. Many of the finest locust groves we have had, have been killed by the borers; and the ground, now full of locust roots, is sending up shoots that form a thick shrubbery—few trees—a perfect nuisance. Single trees, and even clumps of trees, have yet escaped the ravages of these borers; but where one tree is perfectly healthy, a hundred have been killed.

"Swine's Flesh."

The papers have latterly contained many onslaughts on the use of swine's flesh for food. It has been charged that the use of it has caused most of the ills which our flesh is heir to. We have always, however, held in much doubt the statements and we are glad to see an article in the *Homestead*, on the other side of the question. To our mind, it presents strong facts—entitled to great weight. We give it to our readers:

"It is very common to hear flippeant girls, would-be delicate women, and would-be very nice young men, who live in cities and stray up here now and then, declaim against pork. They say it is not fit food for the human stomach, and quote Moses to prove it; and they who do not know one other command of the Mosaic law, commend the inspired lawgiver as 'a man of sense who knew what he was about' when he told his followers not to eat the flesh of swine, but to hold it in abomination. Pork may be too strong a diet for their weak stomachs and feeble intellects, but it is food which nourished the strong frames, iron nerves, stout hearts, and the incorruptible virtue of the heroes who have thus far borne upon their shoulders the ark of our country's safety. Nearly all the gallant men who have served our country in her times of greatest peril were reared on pork. Upon this scorned food were raised our Indian fighters in our country's days of infancy. Pork filled the strong stomachs of such men as John Mason, 'the Brave Lovewell,' and Colonel Benjamin Church; of Roger Wolcott, William Pepperell, and other heroes of the old French war. Upon pork was raised nearly every man of mettle and action who figured in the war of the revolution. Isrel Putnam, Seth Pomeroy, Ethan Allen, Prescott, Stark, Green, Wooster and others, were men who had lived the lives of plain farmers, and the chief of their diet had been pork and rye and Indian bread.—And it is a singular coincidence that the only men who disgraced our cause during the war of the revolution, and were either incapable, unsuccessful, or rank traitors, were men who had been bred in cities, who were corrupted by refinements and luxuries, and who probably did not eat pork. Such men were Gen. Gates, Gen. Charles Lee, Doctor Church of Boston, and that arch-traitor Benedict Arnold, who had been a shop-keeper in New Haven.

Now let us see why Moses forbade the use of pork as food.

I confess that though I have often been foolish enough to allow my temper to be ruffled by the silly affectations of some of our city visitors who could not eat pork, yet for a long time I could not silence them by giving any satisfactory reasons why Moses forbade it. I examined Scott's Commentary, and Henry's Commentary but they did not help me a bit. I tried to talk it up with our minister, but got no light from him. I found in his library however, a book on Jewish antiquities, which gave me a clue to a solution. There I read some travels in Modern Palestine, and at last falling in with an intelligent missionary who had lived several years in Syria, I found out the dif-

ference between the *flesh of swine* spoken of by Moses, and the grain fed *pork* of Europe and America. The swine of Syria in the days of Moses, as well as the present day, are not domesticated. They run at large, and are a disgusting looking animal, with no hair or bristles, and their skins scaly and scabby, with blotches and foul running sores. The fat when melted does not become lard, but a turbid oil with a most offensive odor. In that climate nature is profuse in her productions, and rapid in her changes. If animal life is profuse, so is death, and garbage and carrion abound in the daily wanderings of the swine, and the swine feed on it. By persons of wealth the rites of sepulture are as carefully performed as in any country, and the cemeteries are protected. But the mass of the people are poor and squalid, and when they die, if they receive any burial, it is but a foot or two of sand that covers them, which offers but a slight impediment to the hogs, dogs, and vultures who wrangle over their corpses. The loathsome leper deserted while living, dies when he falls down by the highway, and his remains corrupt even in life, are devoured by the swine in the full ripeness of corruption. The hog was in the days of Moses, and is now in that country the general scavenger, and his maw was, and is, the tomb of the poor and unfortunates whose remains lie exposed without the gates of the cities.

Outside of the walls of Jerusalem is that Pottersfield, which was bought with the thirty pieces of silver paid for our Saviour's blood, and which has ever since been held in execration by all men as accursed ground.—A charnel-house is within its borders. It is called a charnel-house, but is a large open pit into which for centuries past, and to the present day are thrown the bodies, unconfined and unshrouded, of those who can obtain no other burial. This charnel-house, this abominable place, is not protected from the beasts of the field, or the birds of the air. Common decency forbids me to say more.

Need any other reasons be given why the Israelites abhorred the flesh of swine?—When a hog put flesh upon his bones by picking it off the bones of a diseased Jew, for Jews to turn round and eat the flesh of the hog, would be but one remove from eating their own dead; and therefore it was that a Jew of Syria would suffer death, rather than eat the polluted flesh of swine. In view of these facts it is only strange that any command human or divine was needed upon the subject; but we are told in Isaiah that the Gentiles sometimes eat the flesh of swine. But throughout that country at the present day this meat is abhorred by all men without distinction of nation, sect or caste. Now to call this flesh of Syrian swine by the respectable name of *pork*, is almost as absurd as it would be to call the flesh of the hyena *veal*. The meat of the grain-fed hogs, and that only, is what I call *pork*. The hogs of England and the United States have come down to us from a long line of pure ancestry, and have not a drop of that polluted Syrian blood in their veins, and no more wholesome meat can be eaten than good *pork*. And a New England farmer without a supply of *pork* in his cellar, is as sure to

become bankrupt as a bank without specie in its vaults.

In the neighborhood of our large cities I have seen slaughter-houses where numbers of swine were fed on the animal garbage and offal, and in due time the hogs were killed, sent to market called *pork*, and somebody eats it. Now I will not say that they who eat it will have scrofula, cancer, tape-worms, or even a colic, but I will only remark that for my own eating I prefer *pork* fed on corn.

Good corn-fed *pork*, and rye, and Indian meal is now supplying the bone, muscle, and sinew, the brain and the nerve which is to be the strength and virtue of our future history. Strong men are now being reared upon this food, who will fill the places of our giants of old. The dandies and shop-clerks of our cities, can never fill their places. They will be filled from the homes of toil and industry; from the farm and the village school. "Those who labor in the earth," said Thomas Jefferson, "are the chosen people of God," and so said the Bible before him. And if in His wisdom another crisis is to arrive in the nation like that of 1776, our heroes will, as they spring up, not from amid the refinements of the city, (for in the slim waist of a city belle there is not room enough for a hero,) but from the strong loins of hardy men and women; they will be the offspring of those who will till the soil, and earn their daily bread by their daily labor; who live frugal and temperate lives, and the chief of whose food is the fruits and vegetables of their orchards, and gardens, and rye and Indian bread, and *pork*."

Information Wanted.

Editor of the Farmer:—Our lands are generally too wet to plow and it is still raining, and we begin to think seriously of contriving some way to drain our low lands. And as it would probably be of some interest to a great many of your readers, we would like to obtain some information through your valuable paper in regard to the ditching done with the under-ground or mole ditcher. Several of us in this vicinity would like to club together and buy a machine if we were all convinced of the adaptability and durability of the work. J. H.

TAYLORVILLE, Ill.; April 21st.

We hope that Mr. Hensley, of Island Grove, or some other gentleman who has operated with the mole plow will answer the above inquiries, through this paper.

"Draining lands," that is the word with our farmers. It is utter folly to rely on obtaining crops on our flat, wet lands without draining. As a general fact, our springs are not favorable for farm work. If flat lands are in order for early planting or sowing, it is not the rule but the exception.

We do not suppose our farmers are able to go into a general system of un-

derdraining with tiles. They may do a good deal with the mole plow; but they can do a good deal more by surface draining. We know of flat lands made comparatively dry by surface draining. The amount of water carried off by surface drains, where made of the proper depth and width, is perfectly surprising. It seems to us that underdraining, on our prairies, would be entirely inadequate to carry off the waters accumulated from heavy and continual rains—such as we have in spring—in any reasonable time.

We say to farmers—lessen your farms—drain your lands—cultivate thoroughly by deep plowing when practicable—do all work well—and your crops will pay when half cultivation will be a failure.

SOFT MAPLES.—These grow rapidly and make handsome trees. They will bear seeds in five years after planting. The seeds mature in June. The trees can be found on low lands. Gather the seeds when they begin to fall from the trees. Plow up a quarter of an acre of ground. Sow them broadcast, if you like; in drills it would be better. They will come up the present season and grow a foot or more high. In two years they will be large enough to transplant, and they will grow right ahead. A man who lives on a Prairie Farm, in this way can stock his farm with trees in five years that will make a good show and prove a far better investment than fruit trees from Rochester nurseries.

THE OSAGE ORANGE.—There is a far greater call for these plants this spring than ever before. Most of the plants now to be had are two years old. But little seed was planted last year. Those who plant seed this year will reap a harvest next—for we are confident that next year there will not be a sufficient supply of plants to meet the demand.

EARLY VEGETABLES.—These must not be lost sight of. Early Peas, early Beets, early Horn Carrots, early York Cabbage, the fine kidney Potatoes, early six week Beans, early Turnip, early Radish—mature for the table two or three weeks before the common varieties of these vegetables.

APPLE PIE MELON.—Who will send us half a dozen reeds of this melon?

Experience with the Imphee.

Mr. Taylor, of Loudon county, Virginia, thus gives a synopsis of his experience with the Imphee:

"Last spring he procured from A. O. Moore, of New York, four packages of African sugar cane seed, of an ounce each, marked Boomowana, Neesana, Oomsecana, Enyana. The Boomowana and Neesana were marked 'early,' and the others 'late.'—They were planted on the 15th and 20th of May, on ground which would have produced forty bushels of corn to the acre, in rows four feet, and in hills two feet apart. The stalks were larger than the sorghum, but not so tall, seldom above eight feet. The heads were more compact, and yielded much more grain. The Boomowana yielded at the rate of 66 bushels per acre, and weighing 51 pounds per bushel. Neesana and Oomsecana yielded at the rate of 50 bushels, of 60 pounds, per acre; and the Enyana, being on inferior soil, yielded but 36 bushels, of 60 pounds per acre. Some of the seed was ground by him, and produced flour, far superior to buckwheat in yield and quality; which mixed with $\frac{1}{4}$ wheat flour made fine light bread.

As a sugar-producing plant it was much superior to the Sorghum, at that place. The juice marked a density of 1,125 to 1,144, or of 16° to 18° Beaume, and would yield from 29 to 33 per cent. saccharine matter.—He boiled some of the juice and had no trouble in granulating it into cane sugar.—Showing a quality one half better than sugar cane."

Cutting Fence Timber.

A practical farmer in a communication to the *Germantown* (Pa.) *Telegraph* advances a peculiar theory in regard to the period for cutting timber intended for fences, especially for posts. The prevalent opinion in regard to the best time, is when the timber is most free from sap, and the very worst time is when it contains the most sap. This practical farmer referred to, entertains the very opposite opinion. On one occasion he cut down some excellent white oak in the month of February and set it out in fence posts, and after this he cut down the same kind of timber in the month of May (when it contained most free sap) and set it out into posts also. The former posts lasted only *six years*; the latter endured twenty-two years.

This correspondent also advocates the cutting of timber for rails about the month of May when it contains most sap. He says if timber is cut for rails when the sap is running, the bark then stripped off, and the rails made immediately, they will last one fourth longer than if cut at any other time and have the bark left on. The inside bark of the wood is the first to decay and rot; being of a porous nature it contains air and water which carry the process of decay into the wood. When the bark is peeled off, the sap soon dries and prevents decay. All

experience goes to prove that the bark should always be peeled from chestnut or other rails in order to render them more durable: this is well known to every farmer, but it will hardly be conceded that the best time for cutting rail timber is when it contains most free sap. This is a practical question, however, which can only be decided by experiments, and it is one of no small importance, as a vast outlay is caused annually for repair of decayed fences.

Health and Hogs.

A foolish idea prevails that hog meat is unhealthy. Experience in the army and navy, and the mercantile service, prove that no meat is more healthy than salt pork or bacon. The reason why people are sick from eating pork is, because they *eat too much at once*. Pork is highly nutritious, and too much is easily and too often eaten. In hot enervating climates much meat of any kind is unhealthy; mutton among the least so, because the least concentrated. The Americans eat too much meat of all kinds. I rejoice to see fruit, milk, and nuts coming more and more into fashion. I think a small slice of ham with lettuce, "greens," turnips, beans, &c., &c., will never give one the "scrofula," nor "tape-worm!" nor necessary "damnation!"—*American Stock Journal*.

C. M. CLAY.

TO MAKE EXCELLENT BREAD.—Take eight quarts of wheat flour, spread it in your mixing dish, so as to leave a large cavity in the center; pour a sufficient quantity of boiling milk, or water, over two quarts of sifted white corn meal to scald it thoroughly, and let it stand till it is only lukewarm, turn it into the flour, add a teacupfull of good hop yeast and a little warm milk or water; stir it well, mixing in a portion of the flour, and let it stand ten or twelve hours in a warm place; knead it well; make it into loaves which will rise, near the fire, in less than an hour. When baked well, this bread is light, sweet, and nutritious; quite as good as bread made of potatoe yeast, and it keeps moist longer, besides being a saving of flour.

An excellent dish may be made to tempt the appetite so apt to fail at this season of the year, by slicing dried beef very thinly, and giving the bits a quick broil over a blaze; after which immerse them in a gravy of sweet cream, and add a few eggs, boiled soft in clear water, pepper it well, but the meat is generally sufficiently salt without adding any, and for this reason cream is preferable to butter.

A Mr. Field, from St. Louis, was in this city a day or two since *en route* for Seneca Falls, N. Y., where he has contracted for the construction of a steam engine, which is to work a series of spades, the machine to be used in cultivating the Illinois prairie lands. His apparatus is to be finished early in June.

LIMA BEANS.—Do best in poor ground. They mature earlier and are certain to produce crops. The poles

should be six feet high and the tops should be pinched off when they reach that height.

Under Draining.

This was the subject of discussion at the Farmers' Club, at one of its recent meetings; and, perhaps, at no former time has the subject of under-draining been more fully discussed. The Club had the advantage of the presence of Judge French, of Exeter, New Hampshire, who lately returned from England, after a thorough investigation of the English methods of under-draining, and who is now engaged in writing a work on this subject. It was generally admitted by all present that thoroughly under-drained land cannot suffer from drouth; that the mere getting rid of redundant water from the soil is not the greatest benefit of under-drains, but that the aeration of the soil is full as important as the absence of redundant water; that soils thoroughly under-drained require less manures; that the chemical changes which are continually going on in the soil occur more rapidly in the absence of redundant water, and the occurrence of air through the drain permits the surface of every particle throughout the soil to be reached by atmosphere and motion; the difference in temperature between these particles of the supernatant atmosphere causing a slight condensation, and thus furnishing all the conditions for those changes necessary for the development of the inorganic portions of the soil.

In answer to various questions, Judge French remarked as follows:

"The best depth of drain, it is thought, is four feet; and that is so, according to my observations, though it depends upon circumstances. Where tiles are dear, and labor cheap, the less tiles we can use the better.—*Drains three feet deep, or forty feet apart, are not so effective as at five feet deep and fifty feet apart.* Tiles, in this country, must be laid below frost and sub-soil plows, and that should be at least three feet deep. Nobody contends, now, in England, for less than three feet depth of drains, and those who advocate three feet are called shallow drainers. As a general rule, it costs as much to dig the fourth foot as it does the other three feet. A four-foot drain is opened in England, only one foot wide at the top, and just wide enough to lay the tile at the bottom. I open my drains four inches wide at the bottom, because that is as narrow as I can dig with a pick. The digger must have room for his feet at the bottom, to work with that tool, and our soil is so hard that nothing else will do.

As to the size of tiles, I never would use a one-inch tile, because I do not believe it sufficient to carry off the great amount of rain-water that falls in this country, which is much greater than falls in England, and it does not come in that gentle, drizzling way, but with a rush, just as we do many things, and the pipes must be large enough to carry it all off. We have no sufficient tables, as yet, but we are getting posted up, and from what I have seen, I think we have got to provide against a rain fall of forty-five inches a year. Our New England showers are sometimes little deluges. In 1852, we

had six inches in one hour. Often we have two, three or four inches in twenty four hours. Just before planting, we have a flood of rain, and this must be carried off, and that immediately.

I have drained some of my land at fifty feet apart, five feet deep. We need, as a general thing, *larger tiles in this country than in England, simply because we have more water to carry off in a short time.* As to the water going through the pores of the tile, there is *ten times as much goes through the joints as through the pores* so that making them porous is not so very important.—The joints will take in all the water in the ground. I would have my tiles about as well burnt as good wall brick. They are then strong enough, and can be cut, and are not likely to break in the earth. They should be hard enough not to dissolve, and the clay should be compressed enough to make the tile strong enough, without such hard burning as will melt the clay. I prefer collars three inches long, and always would use collars on small pipes, because they keep the pipes in line, and I would not use less than one and a half inch tiles. As to the shape of the orifice, if you have a low head, an egg shape, with small end down, is the best, but a round hole generally is good enough. So is a tile that is round on the outside. The difficulty in *round tiles, is that they are apt to bend in drying*, and it is important to have the line of pipes straight. The round tile is the form adopted by the Land-Draining Company, in England—a company of competent men, who work scientifically.—They never use less than one and a half inch pipe, and those always with collars; but they prefer two inch tile, without collars.

As to joining brook drains, I would have a pipe made purposely, and never bring in the side drain at right angles, and always give it a fall into the main pipe.

As to silt basins, if you want to inspect your drains, a silt basin may be of use; but simpler things than such silt-basins as are made in the Central Park will answer. A large, strong-made pipe, set up over the drain-pipe, where the branches join, will enable any one to inspect a drain, to see where the stoppage is. My impression is that two-inch tiles, fifty feet apart, in ditches two hundred yards long, will carry off all the water necessary. Pipes should be as smooth as possible. Two-inch pipes are probably more economical than one and a half inch pipes, with collars, since the collars cost, in England, half as much as pipes. But there is some land in which it will not answer to lay pipes of any size, without collars, or some substitute. I use pieces of wood, such as the Yankee boot-makers use to stiffen the bottom of thick boots, which I put under the joints of the tiles, and that effectually keeps one pipe from settling below the other."

It having been stated that the pick could not be used in making drains below the level of the feet, it was suggested that the lifting sub-soil plow would effectually take the place of the pick; its line of travel being horizontal, it could disintegrate two inches at a time, using the strength of a pair of horses, instead of that of a man, and was in fact a

pick, when applied to this purpose. When worked with the chain, and the horse, or oxen walking on either side of the drain, its horizontal position would be maintained, and the earth loosened, so as to be readily thrown out, even in hardpan bottoms.

Pratt's Draining Machine was, also, fully described; and a member stated that he had dug seventy rods per day, three feet deep, with this machine, and that, when deeper drains are required, they are to be finished by hand.

Salisbury's Drain Tile Machine was fully described. This machine is calculated to induce a more extended use of drain tile. It manipulates the clay, as taken from the bank, without the use of pug-mill, cistern, or other contrivance for the preparations of the clay, the whole being done within the machine itself. The clay is thrown into a hopper, and is passed through a series of rollers, by which it is so thoroughly worked as to render it soft and pliant, even in quite a dry state. It is then forced out through a form making the drain tile, and is so much compressed that the tile does not alter its figure in drying. Its finish is very much better than when made with ordinary tile machines. This machine is now being manufactured as a hand machine, by which two or three thousand tiles may be made per day, with hand power. The process of rolling tile, as pursued in England, when half dry, to correct their figure, will be unnecessary with tiles made with this machine.—Much other interesting matter on the subject of drains was given.—*Working Farmer.*

Look out for the Tree Pedlars.

MR. EDITOR:—The tree pedlars will soon be swarming over the land. As soon as they get off their spring stocks and get the money or notes for their trees, they have sold for spring planting, they will beset you for orders for the fall. Where are the trees that they have sold in Illinois? Why, if their trees had lived, the Central part of Illinois would now be covered with orchards. Some of the trees they have sold may undoubtedly be found, but not one for a thousand!

This fact may be attributed, in part, to bad seasons for fruit trees, but more to the fact that the trees are not suited to our climate. An investigation shows that apple trees which do best in Eastern States, fail here. We do not succeed with apples which are most popular in northern States. A farmer who will set out an orchard of such apple trees as would be recommended in New York, would be sure to spend his time and money for no practical benefit.

Even in Illinois there are but few varieties of apple trees which are approved by all our nurserymen and fruit growers. Varieties that do best in Northern Illinois, succeed but partially in Central Illinois, and fail in the Southern section of the State. Eastern nurseries rarely propagate the varieties which have proved the best here. Hence it is that orchards of eastern trees so often fail. We say to our farmers, if you want varieties suited to our climate, purchase of our nurserymen. They have experience which will be worth dollars to you, and they are acting under responsibilities which will compel them to do you justice, even if they had not a

higher motive to govern them in their conduct.

You want other fruit trees than apples.—Take their advice in regard to dwarfs, peaches, cherries and quinces. Leave selections to them as a general thing. They will furnish you with varieties likely to be hardy, prolific and excellent.

The fruit pedlars sell off a great deal of flower and fruit shrubbery to our farmers, and even go into our cities and obtrude themselves to find markets. The present spring they have put off thousands of Houghton's Seedling gooseberries, currants, raspberries, and flowering plants at double the ordinary price at our nurseries. The trees and plants do not come up to the specifications in size or appearance, and perhaps in varieties—but what have you to say? The pedlar has your order, and when trees fruit or blossom, he may be a thousand miles from you. Often you are disposed to resist the swindling bill; but you cannot effectually do that, for he has made his papers to fit his designs so exactly that you are in a net from which you cannot escape.

We say to the readers of the Farmer, that when the fall or spring has come, and you want trees, make out a list of the number you desire, and go to the nurseryman, see the trees yourself, ask his advice, and get what you want, plant them out well, and you will always rejoice that you attended to the business yourself, and that you did not listen to the pedlar, who has all his lessons by note, and who can say them off to you with the facility of the keeper of a menagerie. This is plain talk—intended for plain people.

From the Chicago Press and Tribune.

FAIRBANK'S SCALES.—These scales, invented more than thirty years ago, by the Messrs. Fairbanks, of Vermont, and still made *there and by them*, have been more generally used than all others, and are everywhere regarded as the *best* and really *cheapest* scales in use. We are told that some other makers, in order to introduce their own scales, make them similar in appearance to Fairbanks', but in *appearance* only; and represent that they employ some of Fairbanks' workmen, and sometimes even that theirs are the genuine Fairbanks' scales. This shows the high estimate placed upon Fairbanks' scales by the business public, and should put persons desiring to purchase these on their guard, lest they get a different and inferior article.

Fairbanks & Greenleaf, at their extensive scale warehouse, 35 Lake street, have a full assortment of Fairbanks' railroad, hay, coal, grain, cattle, and store scales; also a very neat, convenient and cheap grain-testing scale, the one recently adopted by the Board of Trade as the standard for grading grain coming to this market. They also sell Boston rubber belting and North Wayne Scythes and Axes at Eastern prices. Persons ordering from Fairbanks & Greenleaf, or any of their authorized agents, will be sure of getting the real Fairbank's scales. 1t.

COAL TAR PAINT.—This can be made as lasting almost as stone, by using this precaution: when the paint is put on the wood, put as much blacksmith's coal dust on it, as it will soak in.

Apples can be preserved fresh until in

Juno, if you gather them as late as you can; put them into well washed and perfectly dry river sand, and cover well every layer.

H. J. Chase, in Peoria county, covers his farm buildings mostly with thatch. He uses for thatching a coarse article of grass he finds in the bottoms of Creeks, which lasts well, is a cheap and effectual covering.

The five-tined fork, with handle like a spade, is a very convenient implement to use in the digging of gardens. It does the work better than the spade, and with half the labor.

Poke is used as a culinary vegetable in Arkansas. The roots are dug up in the fall and planted out like asparagus. The young roots are cut and dressed like asparagus, and said to be a delicate dish.

Dandelions are often used, in the East, as early greens. The plants are becoming plentiful in the West—more so than desirable. When used for greens, they should be par-boiled well, the water then turned off, more water added, then boiled, and the greens will then be delicate food—besides having some valuable qualities as a spring medicine.

Mr. Dunlap's Nursery.

This is a new nursery, commenced two years ago, in Champaign county, about three miles south of West Urbana, immediately on the Western side of the Central Rail road. Mr. Dunlap formerly had a nursery in Cook county, and we believe brought most of his valuable stock from that point.

The lands occupied by the nursery are beautifully adapted to that purpose. They rise gently from the Rail Road, and can be drained without difficulty, if that should be required. Thirty-three acres are now embraced in the nursery grounds, which are laid out in a very convenient and tasteful manner.

He has all the variety of fruit and ornamental trees, and ornamental and fruit shrubbery, and herbaceous flowering plants, desired in this region. His stock of evergreens embraces many thousands of all the hardy and best kinds, and he is increasing this stock rapidly—the increasing demands for evergreens justifying a large expenditure in this department. Of the silver maple, he has ten thousand trees, a great portion of which are of the right size for transplanting. On prairie farms this tree is valuable for its quick growth, and its beautiful form—making rapidly protective skirts of timber. It is not subject to disease, is clean, sweet, and does not throw up suckers like the locust—growing quite as fast. Prairie farmers, and the residents of our towns cannot too soon provide themselves where they desire deciduous ornamental trees—with the silver maples. Mr. D. has the other varieties of ornamental trees—larch, horse chestnut, &c.

The apple trees growing in the nursery are such as a good orchardist would select for transplanting. They are stocky, thrifty,

with low heads, suited to prairie cultivation. His stock of apple trees is very large, and in the coming fall he will have many thousands of a suitable size for transplanting. He has all the varieties recommended by the Fruit Growers' Association, for cultivation in Illinois, and many other varieties which are sometimes asked for by emigrants from different portions of other States. Persons applying to Mr. Dunlap for apple trees, and giving the general selection to him, will be supplied with the best trees and the best varieties.

Of Peach trees, he has a large stock of all the choice varieties; as also of plums, apricots, cherries, quinces, and dwarf and standard pears. His dwarf pears are as handsome trees as we have seen. He has a large stock of gooseberries, currants, raspberries and strawberries. His grounds are ornamented with a large variety of the hardy June Roses, and his hardy perpetuals, may be counted by hundreds. It is rarely the case that so great a variety of this latter valuable and popular variety of Roses is found in one enclosure. In a few days more of good weather, the bulbous plants will be in blossom and make a fine show.

Mr. Dunlap took possession of these grounds some two years since. He has made great improvements within that time. He has a most excellent and well arranged barn, good yards, comfortable houses and other buildings, and is still going ahead with his improvements.

This nursery is at a convenient point for sending off trees, &c., to different parts of the State. It is about the centre of Illinois, north and south. Lying on the Central road, it is within five miles of the Great Western at Tolono. Orders were filled while we were at the nursery every day, and sent north and south—so that trees can be had in one or two days after being taken up from the nursery, in any part of the State situated on those roads—a very great object for those who purchase trees.

In passing over this large nursery, and noticing its extensive and varied stock of fruit, ornamental trees, shrubbery, &c., we could not but be surprised that our citizens, intelligent farmers, and others, are often induced to purchase trees from tree pedlars, which come from a distance—subject to all the casualties of long passage—put up without care—uncertain in size, thriftiness, or variety—and neglect the fine trees in the nurseries of our responsible nurserymen, accustomed to our climate, certain to be true to names, and which, taken direct from the nursery, if planted out as they ought to be, are sure to grow well. Where are the millions of apple trees which have been sold in this State by foreign pedlars?

We have a schedule of the prices of trees sold at "Dunlap's Nursery," which are twenty-five per cent. lower than the prices of foreign trees, and which, besides, are larger and better. This schedule we shall give hereafter.

The post office address of the proprietor, Hon. M. L. Dunlap, is "West Urbana, Ill."

"CHASE'S HANDBOOKS OF KNOWLEDGE FOR PRAIRIE LIFE."—These are to be published in a series and are intended to embrace all sub-

jects connected with Agriculture and Horticulture in the Prairies. The first number is published;—it is entitled, "The Prairie Fruit Culture: or what to plant and how to cultivate in the West." It contains within a small compass much practical and useful information on fruit culture. It is well worth the price, 25 cents; and should be in the hands of every farmer.

Illinois State Fair.

The premium list for the Fair of 1859, is now published, and in the course of distribution. Copies can be had at the offices of the Agricultural papers of this State; of the officers of the State Agricultural Society; of the officers of the County Agricultural societies, and of S. Francis, Corresponding Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, Springfield.

The Premium list presents a valuable list of premiums. They exceed sixteen thousand dollars. No entry fee is required in any case. This rule of the Society is not departed from. From the interest manifested, especially in the region embracing the North half of the State, we are confident the State Fair of 1859, will equal in the number of entries, in the attendance, and interest, any State Fair, which has preceded it. The arrangement for the operation of the steam plow will be full and perfect.

MAGNIFICENT LIBERALITY.

IMPORTANT TO STOCK RAISERS.

We see from notices in the papers that the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association offer as premiums for their Fourth Annual Fair, to commence on the 26th day of September next—about \$20,000; and that they invite competition from the whole Union.

Among others we see that they offer

For best thorough-bred stallion.....	\$1,000
" " roadster stallion (in harness).....	1,000
" " thorough-bred bull.....	1,000

Their premiums to be paid in *plate* or *coin* at the option of the successful competitor.

And no entry fee required in any department, on stock, machinery, or anything else.

Currants and Gooseberries.

If you want your currants and gooseberries to do their best, you must manure them. Dig in rotten manure about their roots—first cleaning away the grass and weeds.

Houghton's Seedling is a capital gooseberry—good enough. White Dutch and Red Dutch are capital currants—and are quite large when well manured and pruned.

GREAT SALE OF STOCK.—Mr. Alexander, of Kentucky, will have a sale of stock belonging to his world-renowned herd on the first Wednesday of June next. See advertisement.

Valuable Receipts.

WARTS.—Rub them with fresh beef every day until they begin to disappear.

FOR A STING.—Bind on the place a thick plaster of salt moistened.

COMMERCIAL.

St. Louis Market--April 30.

FLOUR—Business confined to irregular lots. Reported sales of 100 bbls low superfine country at \$5 55; 24 bbls do \$5 40; 303 bbls low grade at \$5 25; 321 bbls do at \$5; 150 bbls city fancy at \$6, and 143 sks superfine city at \$3.

WHEAT—Sales of 145 sks poor spring at 105¢@112½¢; 600 sks spring from 115 to 121¢; 600 sks club at 122¢; 471 sks poor fall at 120¢@125¢; 692 sks do at 132¢@133¢; 135 sks at 136¢; 182 sks at 135¢@150¢; 265 sks at 140¢; 150 sks at 145¢, and 184 sks choice red at 150¢.

CORN—250 sks damaged sold at 70¢; 200 sks in the ear at 75¢; 5,354 sks mixed and white and yellow at 77¢@78¢; 200 sks choice in the ear at 80¢; 200 sks white at 80¢; 250 sks yellow delivered, at 80¢, and 300 sks choice white at 82¢.

OATS—Sales of 47 sks at 53¢; 148 sks at 60¢; 77 sks at 65¢; 289 sks at 67¢, and 109 sks at 69¢.

BARLEY—172 sks poor spring at 45¢, and 192 sks do at 60, including sacks.

RYE—A small lot sold at 90¢.

PORK—No sales of mess pork.

CUT MEATS—Sales 5,000 shoulders and 50 cks hams up the river at 5 and 7¢.

BACON—10 cks country clear sides at 10¢, and 30 cks country perkhouse shoulders at 6½¢.

LARD—50 tcs prime sold 10½¢.

WHISKY—361 bbls in lots sold at 24½¢.

St. Louis Cattle Market--April 30.

BELLEVUE HOUSE STOCK YARDS—MANCHESTER ROAD.

BEEVES—Beef Cattle have been in fair supply for the past week, with only a moderate demand, and prices for choice cattle have a downward tendency. Sales were made as follows:

68 head at.....	\$9 35 net.
136 " " " " " "	9 25 " "
116 head at.....	9 00 " "
99 " " " " " "	5 00 gross.

The above were all good qualities, including some very fine cattle, with only few ordinary. Butchers have purchased less freely; good to choice retail at 9 to 10; common to fair, 7½¢@8½¢ net, with sales of a few extra at 10½¢@11. A fine lot of steers, containing 85 head, were retailed to butchers for \$6.468, or a fraction over \$76¢ head. There are about 200 head in the yards unsold.

HOGS—The receipts are still large, and sales continue to be made at low rates. Butchers are paying 6½¢@7½¢ net; shippers pay 5½¢@6—large supply left over.

SHEEP—Are selling from \$4 to \$6 50¢ head, according to quality.

COWS AND CALVES—But few coming in at present, and in fair demand, from \$25 to \$45¢ head, as to quality.

St. Louis Horse and Mule Market--April 30.

Supplies of over 40 head of horses were received during the week, at the Bazaar Stables, from Iowa and Minnesota, but is not equal to the demand. Prices are tending upwards, and good number one horses and mules can be sold at an advance on prices obtained for three or four weeks past. A number of large mules are wanted for city use; none in the market. Sales of 83 head of horses and mules were made during the week at the St. Louis Horse Bazaar, on Fifth street, between Washington avenue and Green streets, as follows, viz:

Monday, April 25, 12 head sold at private sale for	\$1,724 50
Tuesday, " 26, 12 " " " auc. and pri. sale	2,015 00
Wednesday " 27, 6 " " " at private sale for	902 50
Thursday " 28, 7 " " " " " "	935 00
Friday " 29, 31 " " " auc. and pri. sale	3,728 50
Saturday " 30, 6 " " " at private sale	745 00

83 head for \$10,160 50

About 45 head left over; but few good horses in the market.

New York Cattle Market--April 27.

[Abridged from the New York Tribune, April 28]

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF ALL KINDS FOR THE WEEK.

According to the reports from the several market places in the city, there have been received this week:

Beeves. Cows. Veals. Sheep. Swine. Tot'l & Lbs.

Total.....	3 510	179	1 384	2 920	3 633	11 631
Total previous week, 2,907	226	1 732	3 190	3 616	11 721	
Av. pr. w'k last year, 3,680	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

BEEVES FROM DIFFERENT STATES

A. M. Allerton & Co., proprietors of the Washington drove yards, Forty fourth street, report the cattle in market from the following states:

New York.....	1002	Kentucky.....	166
Ohio.....	608	Iowa.....	426
Pennsylvania.....	58	Connecticut.....	31
Indiana.....	29	Canada.....	11
Illinois.....	794		

BEEF CATTLE.

Number reported at this market at Forty-fourth street...3056
The prices to-day are quoted as follows:

First quality.....	11¢@11½¢
Medium.....	9½¢@10½¢
Ordinary.....	9¢@9½¢
Some extra good beeves may be quoted at.....	12¢@12½¢
The general average of the market at.....	10¢@10½¢

It will be perceived at a glance that we have materially reduced the quotations of last week, but the true state of the market cannot be fully understood by any one not present. We will try to make it as clearly understood as possible. In the first place, we needed a larger supply this week than last, but did not need 782 more. This alone is sufficient to reduce prices. But there were other circumstances. The market opened Tuesday with 2,422 cattle in the yards, and every body having cattle to sell, knew very well that these 600 head, on an Albany boat, such on the overslaugh, which would be in to-day in time for sale, and it was believed that about 150 more would come in by cars, making over 3,000

head, many of them heavy bullocks. This knowledge had a sort of panic influence upon the owners, which buyers were not slow in discovering, and so all the afternoon. Tuesday, it was a sort of game of brag, to see which party would outwit the other. Some of the brokers and Western drovers were shrewd enough to accept the best bids to be had, and let the cattle run, while others held on, in hopes to-day would be better. A great number of cattle, too, were in the hands of speculators, bought at Buffalo, Albany, Bergen and here, at prices that would not bear the general decline without heavy losses. Such held on in a sort of desperation of hope, that this day had not realized.

Fortunately, for Illinois drovers, stock is transported from Chicago now at wonderfully low figures. Regular shipments at \$3 50 a head, competing roads offering still lower.

THE HOG MARKET.

There is no material alteration in the Hog market. The arrivals are light, and sales are quoted at 5½¢@6½¢.



FAIRBANKS' PATENT SCALES OF ALL KINDS.

Fairbanks & Greenleaf, 35 LAKE STREET, CHICAGO.

Sold in Springfield, by may 17 E. B. PEASE.

ELLIOTT'S WESTERN fruit BOOK. A NEW EDITION OF THIS WORK,

THOROUGHLY REVISED, Embracing all the new and valuable Fruits, with the latest improvements in their cultivation, up to January, 1899, especially adapted to the wants of WESTERN FRUIT GROWERS. FULL OF EXCELLENT ILLUSTRATIONS, by

F. R. ELLIOTT, Pomologist, Late of Cleveland, O., now of St. Louis.

Price \$1 25.

Sent by mail, post paid, to any part of the United States, on receipt of price.

A. O. MOORE & CO.,

Agricultural Book Publishers 140, Fulton-st., New York.

may 13t

R. A. ALEXANDER'S

Fifth Annual Sale of Short Horns, &c.

R. A. ALEXANDER'S FIFTH ANNUAL SALE OF

SHORT HORNED CATTLE, &c.,

Will take place at

WOODBURN FARM, WOODFORD COUNTY, KENTUCKY,

On the FIRST WEDNESDAY in JUNE, 1899,

(Which is the 1st day of the month.)

When a number of

Superior Young Bulls and Heifers will be Sold.

ALSO:

SOME SOUTH DOWN SHEEP,

From IMPORTED STOCK.

Woodburn Farm adjoins Spring Station Depot, on the Lexington and Frankfort Railroad, being 15 miles from the former, and 10 miles from the latter place.

Catalogues will be ready one month previous to the sale, and may be had on application to R. A. ALEXANDER, or S. W. JOHNSON, Spring Station, Woodford County, Kentucky, may 1 2t

IMPHEE SEED.

WE HAVE THIS SEED FOR SALE.—Those who have cultivated the Imphee, prefer it to the Sorgho. S. FRANCIS.

SEEDS,

GARDEN, FIELD AND FLOWER SEEDS in great variety, for sale by. S. FRANCIS. Seeds will be sent by express or mail, as ordered.

QUEENSWARE.

A LARGE LOT DIRECT FROM THE potteries in England, to be sold at very low prices by aug S. FRANCIS.

MELLONS.

SEEDS OF THE FAMOUS JAPAN Apple pie melon, at 39 cents per doz., by W. H. Gardner, Sublette, Lee Co., Illinois. farm mch 1

SEED WHEAT.

"CANADA CLUB," "SCOTCH FIFE," "DUNDEE," &c. Hellwell, Brother, Milwaukee, Wis., and B. F. Pixley & Co., Janesville, have received from Canada West a supply of these Spring Wheats for seed. It is well known that the change of seed produces a large increase of the crop. Applications for this seed can be made at S. FRANCIS Seed Store, Springfield, who will send orders to meet the wishes of farmers.

SEED OATS.

Persons desiring seed oats, should apply immediately as above. farm mch 1

PURE JAVA AND LAGUIRA COFFEE S, just received by apr 12 LAVELY.

ILLINOIS STATE JOURNAL MAMMOTH JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

BOOK-BINDERY, &c.,

N. E. Corner Capitol Square, Springfield, Ill.

Having perfected arrangements, and made vast improvements to our extensive

Job Printing Establishment,

we are prepared to execute all kinds of

PLAIN & DECORATIVE PRINTING.

In a style not to be excelled by any Printing Office in Central Illinois.

POSTERS

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RAILROAD TICKETS

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BLANKS OF ALL KINDS

RECEIPTS

POLICIES

BILLHEADS, &c., &c.

Printed on short notice, and to the credit of the printer.

CARDS--Competition Defied!

WE have in operation the Celebrated "FIRE-FIT" Card Press, which enables us to furnish a better Card than any other, and at lower price, than any office in Central Illinois.

Orders from a distance will receive prompt attention.

BAILHACHE & BAKER,

Oct. 12.

PROPRIETORS.

HORSE BILLS

NEATLY AND PROMPTLY EXECUTED,

[AT THE

JOURNAL OFFICE.

We have just received some beautiful Cuts.

TERMS LIBERAL.

march 16

LUMBER!!

PLEASE NOTICE—

ALL wishing to buy building Lumber or Fencing, either delivered here or at any point on Railroad,

For Cash,

Will save themselves trouble and money by calling on

E. R. ULRICH & CO.,

We have on hand a very large stock of thoroughly seasoned LUMBER, which we GUARANTEE will be offered for cash, at prices which will clearly make it to the interest of ALL, to buy at home.

Those wishing to buy on long time, may do better elsewhere, as we are determined to make the proper difference between Cash and Credit prices.

Our stock of

SHINGLES,

LATH,

SASH,

DOORS, &c.,

is complete.

ALTON LIME--in barrel or bulk,

Received fresh from kilns, daily.

PLASTER PARIS, best brands.

CEMENT, HAIR, &c.,

Constantly on hand. All for sale at reduced prices,

FOR CASH ONLY.

feb 11-ly

E. R. ULRICH & CO.

Springfield.

ILLINOIS MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.



CAPITAL
UNLIMITED
AND CONSTANTLY
INCREASING.

PRESENT FUND
for the payment of
LOSSES BY FIRE
\$1,000,000 00.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AT ALTON, ILL.

THIS COMPANY WAS CHARTERED

in 1839, and insures, at a moderate cost, almost every species of property in Illinois against Loss or Damage by Fire. The rates of risk are so arranged that each class of property insured will support its own loss.

Every one insured becomes a member—the Company being an association of customers—each of whom is concerned in insuring his neighbor. The capital augments in exact ratio with the increase of risks; the security for which remains in the hands of the insured; therefore, every member is the treasurer of his own money until the same is required for the purpose of paying losses.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tim. Turner,	Lyman Trumbull,	H. W. Billings,
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Henry Lea,	Elias Hibbard,	Alfred Dow,
F. A. Hoffmann,	B. K. Hart,	John Atwood.

B. F. LONG, President.

L. KELLENBERGER, Treasurer.

M. G. ATWOOD, Secretary.

JOHN ATWOOD, Ass't Secretary.

JOHN BLAISDELL, Gen'l Agent.

Application for insurance may be made to the Local Agents, one or more of whom may be found in every county in the State.

JAMES L. HILL, Agent.

Jan 10 d3mawly

B. F. FOX,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WARE USE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Bolts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bits, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Sceptoe's Morticing Machines, Files, etc.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bel lows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Buttresses, etc.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, etc.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Westenholm's Butcher's and other's, Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Curvers, etc. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and double-barrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers' prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Rosettes, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Patches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Mastin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Boxes, Deer and Carried Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belting, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.
May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX.

CATALOGUE

OF

GARDEN SEEDS

FOR SALE BY S. FRANCIS,
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

Asparagus, Artichoke.
BEANS, FOR SNAPS—Valentine, Early Newington, Thousand and One, Early Mohawk, Early China, White Cranberry Bunch, Royal White Bunch.
BEANS, POLE—London Horticultural Cranberry, Silva, Lima, Red Cranberry, Indian Chief.
CABBAGE—Early Wakefield, Early York, Red Dutch, Early Sugar Leaf, Premium Flat Dutch, Large American Drumhead, Drumhead and Kohl Rabi.
CAULIFLOWER—Early London.
COAN—Early Red Cob Sweet Mammoth Sweet, Early Tascorora, &c, Smith's Early White.
BEETS—Early Bassano, Early Blood Turnip, Long Blood Red, Mangel Wurtzel, &c., English Sugar Beet, &c., White Sugar.
CUCUMBERS—Short Green Early, Long London, Long Turkey, Gherkin, &c.
CELERY—Solid white, chrysal white, solid red.
CRESS—Curled double, broad leaf.
CARROTT—Common yellow, early horn, blood red, Belgium yellow.
EGG PLANT—Early long purple.
KALE—Sea kale.
LETTUCE—Ice" coss, early Silesia, green drumhead, &c., early white.
MELON—(Cantalope), pine apple, nutmeg, beach wood, green citron, large yellow cantaloupe.
WATER MELON—Mountain sprout, mountain sweet. Long Island, ice cream, black Spanish, citron melons Nasturtium, Okra, short and long green.
ONION—Large Wetherfield red, early red, Danver's yellow, yellow silver skin, white Portugal.
PEPPER—Large bull nose, large squash, Spanish, cherry, small cayenne.
PEAS—Early Comstocks dwarf, Bishop's long pod, champion of England, dwarf Prussian, large marrowfat, Prince Albert.
PUMPKIN—Large yellowfield, parsnip, long sweet.
PARSLEY—Double curled, Myatt's garnishing.
RHUBARB—Mitchell's early, Myatt's Victoria, Spinach.
SQUASHES (winter.)—Autumnal marrow, winter crookneck, Lima cocoonut, Hubbard's winter.
SQUASHES (summer.)—Early crookneck bush, early yellow bush.
TURNIP—Flat Dutch, early six weeks and various varieties.
TOBACCO—Varieties.
TOMATOE—Large red, red cherry, yellow.
SAGE—Common red.
RADISH—Early red turnip, early long red short top, long, salmon, black Spanish, Salsify (white), scorzonera.
Seeds of various garden herbs.
FLOWER SEEDS—In great variety—embracing a hundred sorts.
CHINESE SUGAR CANE SEEDS—and various other seeds for garden and field, usually found at Seed Stores.

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,	Wm. Pollinbarger,
J. J. Short,	David Newsom,
John W. Beck,	Uriah Mann,
John Kavanaugh,	Philemon Stout.

Sangamon county, Jan 17, 1855.
From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER,
Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

aug4-wlv

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES
SHUABERY, &c.

S. FRANCIS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

will receive orders for all description of trees from the DuPage County Nurseries, L. Ellsworth & Co., proprietors. These trees are well grown, healthy, and their genuineness is warranted. Orders for full planting can be forwarded to them at any time from June till November.

Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Dere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style.

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

On Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adopted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kind of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention.

Sept., 1855—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

All of said articles can be had on application to Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

Western Land Office.

T. S. MATHER.

FOR THE

PURCHASE AND SALE OF CITY PROPERTY, Farms and Unimproved Lands,

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ENTERED WITH WARRANTS OR CASH IN ANY LAND DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, MISSOURI, MINNESOTA OR NEBRASKA.

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Office over N. H. Ridgely's Bank, West side Public Square, Springfield, Ills.

B. B. LLOYD,
DENTIST,

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Conell, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.
June 7, 1855.

Sweet Potat Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (See advertisement of early Nansmond potatoes) feb1 S. FRANCIS.

EVERGREENS.

ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S. Francis for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

Neik Pine Strawberry plants at \$2 50 per 1000; and Hybrid Scotch Rhubarb at \$3 per 100.

Orders for the articles may be left with

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S. FRANCIS.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubby.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL RECEIVE

Orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubby to be had from any Nursery in this State. The articles will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries.

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S. FRANCIS.

NO. 6.

As regards the comparative value of the two plants, it is a difficult matter to form a correct estimate. The Imphees are subdivided into several distinct varieties, but few of which are believed to be adapted to this latitude, and of these few, not all have proven chrystalizable into Sugar. The balance, except in cases where there have been good reasons to believe the seed was either hybrid or not genuine, have generally yielded syrup in quantities; and of a quality which compares favorably with the Chinese or Sorgho. It has been observed to manifest a tendency to become sickly and to be infested with a sort of honey dew insect, at about the period of its growth when the tuft appears, but though these vermin swarm in numbers sufficient, seemingly to devour the plant, they soon disappear, leaving no visible mark of injury. Many who have grown both Chinese and African Cane accord their preference to the latter. Among the most distinguished of these, are ex-Governor Hammond (now Senator,) from South Carolina, and Brutus J. Clay, Esq., the President of the Kentucky State Agricultural Society. S. Francis Esq., the Editor of the Illinois Farmer, has shown me an interesting letter from a farmer in Tazewell County in that State, who has successfully granulated sugar from eight varieties of the Imphees out of nine, which he had planted, and who expressed himself in a very sanguine manner as to the probability that the Imphee will supercede the Sorgho in Illinois. From the drawings which I append, the phytographical difference in the distinctive features of the plant will be readily observed—the Imphee being thicker than the Sorgho at

the base, and hence more capable of withstanding the effects of winds and beating storms prevalent in Prairie States.



SORGHUM.

Very good crops, have, in many instances, been raised from seed, which, had been accidentally dropped upon the ground in the fall, and lay exposed through the winter following,



IMPERIA.

soil is the best which can be selected, the alkaline properties of the ground having chemically a direct action favorable to the production of sugar and tending to prevent or destroy the acidity which is so antagonistic to chrysalization. Drilling in the seed is very highly recommended by a large portion of my correspondents, and many favor ridging the rows, which I heartily commend, as it serves to prevent wet feet which the cane suffers from and has to pay for in juice of feeble saccharine development. It may be well to bear in mind that the production of huge canes is not by any means a desideratum, as their green stalks are frequently much less sweet than smaller ones. Heavy

The Chinese or Sorghum is too well known to require here a detailed description. It appears to be one of the most hardy plants known to our agriculturists, and I am of the opinion that facts justify at least, the hope of its successful reproduction from the planting of the joint when due care has been exercised in its preservation through the

germinating and growing vigorously in the Spring. I have reason to believe that the seed may be sown with oats in the Spring, and after the cutting of that crop yield a most excellent green-soil or fall feed.

In the cultivation of both these canes, dry warm land with southern exposure seems best adapted to rapid and thorough development. It is unquestionable that a calcareous

wet soils favor the growth of woods fibre and a large amount of aqueous juice, lacking in saccharine, while good warm dry soils afford less of the former as well as a decreasing quantity of the latter far richer, however, in quality.

Those who will take the trouble, may plant early in hot beds, and transplant about the middle of June into rich mellow ground, thereby securing a corresponding acceleration of maturity in the fall, and an avoidance of weeding the tender plant when it first makes its appearance in ordinary field planting.

Missing hills may be supplied from adjae ones by transplanting better than by reseeding. The testing of the germinating properties of a small portion of your seed in damp cotton some time prior to the general sowing season, may help many to discover in time whether they have that which is good or not. Like all other crops, the sugar cane repays judicious and liberal cultivation, but I do not advise the stirring of the ground late in the season, as such action appears to stimulate the growing energies of the plant, when there seems rather a natural necessity for discontinuance of action in that direction, in order that the forces of the plant may be directed to the maturity of the seed and the development of saccharine in its juice.—The bulk of testimony favors in my opinion, the non-removal of the tiller or suckers from the growing plants. My observation leads me to advise the removal or stripping of the leaves a week or more prior to the time of cutting or working the cane, say, as soon as the seed is fairly in the milk. If the leaves are to be saved for forage, the hand is about as convenient as any thing to effect this, otherwise, a stick like a small walking stick, care however, is requisite not to break or bruise the stalk as scouring will result therefrom. The upper end being bare, being less early of maturity than that below it will not be found advisable to use beyond three fourths of the lower portion of the cane, where the design is to produce syrup, and even less for sugar. The Louisiana or India cane requires great discretion on this head to avoid injury to the granulation of the crops. An oblique downward stroke in cutting favors the feeding of the stalk to the small horse power mills most generally in use. Several intelligent parties with whom I have communicated state that slight frosts are no injury to the cane, but others whose opinions accord with my own believe otherwise and advise that, when practicable, the cane be cut before frosts, and either shocked or sheltered, where it may stand some weeks uninjured, or never be exposed to considerable cold without material injury, and if I am correctly informed growing constantly sweeter.

Few, probably, will need reminding that the ends should be kept out of the dirt in handling after cutting.

It is a conceded point, we believe that rapid boiling is absolutely essential to success either in making sugar or good syrup. Boilers best suited to evaporation are those which have a considerable extent of fire surface and which do not admit the fire too high around the sides or edges. These should, if shallow, have either curbs or flaring rims, where the expansion into foam and bubble, which accompanies rapid ebullition, may exhaust itself. A few inches of syrup are sufficient to have in the kettles at any time. This allows the steam generated in the bottom of the mass of liquid to freely escape without being smothered or recondensed in passing through the latter, to float away as vapor in the atmosphere. When this rapid conversion of the aqueous portions of the juice into vapor takes place without interruption, called by sugar makers throwing up, I believe, it is said that the grassy taste and unpleasant odor often complained of are either removed or greatly lessened.

The use of evaporators made of sheet metal bottoms and ends with wooden sides, has been much discussed and commended by many; experiment, however, proves that except in cheapness they cannot in any wise compete with cast iron. I have before me an interesting report, of a comparison of these pans with those made of cast iron, from Mr. Jacob Clark of Locust Corner, Clermont Co., in this State (Ohio) which states that evaporation proceeds more uniformly and continuously in the cast boiler and yields a fairer result in quality. The reasons adduced by Mr. C. are that sheet metal from being thinner and consequent inability to retain heat, allows the boiling to cease every time the fire subsides in the furnace, or whenever the fire doors are opened, added to which is incurred liability to scorch in striking the batch of syrup or sugar.

A series of experiments made by me with covered kettles did not convince me of its advantage over open ones in any respect, and the disadvantages in way of skimming are considerable.

A new boiler constructed with flues, by which the amount of fire surface is very greatly increased has been lately made and tested by me, and the result was so interesting that I cannot forbear giving here a report of it. I placed 45 gallons of juice, marking 10 degrees B, in my boiler which in 30 minutes was brought to a boil, after which in one hour I inspissated it to 11½ gallons, making 34° B, hot; and consuming 310 lbs of wood. My furnace was new and we which doubtless extended the time necessary to first boil the juice as was pr-

ven by my record trial. On the latter occasion I placed 72½ gallons of juice marking 5° B in the kettle which boiled in 20 minutes and was reduced to 15 gallons at 34° B, in one hour and fifty minutes after commencing to boil and consumed 315 lbs of wood. The latter batch had the advantage of a hot furnace to commence with.

On another occasion I made a trial less satisfactory perhaps in rapidity of inspissating the juice, but interesting nevertheless in furnishing some data of a practical nature, which is given below.

I divided 74 gallons at 10° B placing a portion in the kettle and the balance in a tank convenient to draw from into the kettle and as soon as boiling commenced in the latter I permitted a stream to flow in from the tank. In 34 hours I had reduced this to 12 gallons of very pleasant syrup marking 40° B, cold. I believe that syrup of this consistency will keep through hot weather without fermenting.

I was aided on the above occasion by one man who with one horse, and a one horse mill, expressed 50 gallons of juice per hour, averaging 10 stalks or canes in the mill, which were pressed quite dry. A boiler of double the capacity of that used by me would have enabled me to have kept pace with the mill and have allowed ample time to keep up my own fire, thus yielding as the product of the labor of two men and one horse, eight gallons of syrup per hour with the average consumption of fuel of three fourths of a cord of wood in 12 hours. By the preceding it appears,—allowing one dollar each for men, fifty cents for horse two dollars for wood, and fifty cents for use of mill and boiler, you will have five dollars as the cost of manufacturing in ten hours 80 gallons of syrup or six and one fourth cents, per gallon. This calculation admits that day wages be paid to the producer himself; omitting which we reduce the estimate to 4½ cents per gallon exclusive of producing the cane for which \$15 per acre is a liberal allowance or say 5 cents per gallon, with juice marking 10° B. I believe these figures can and will be realized, especially when the fact is considered that my boiling was not conducted under as favorable auspices, nor with as happy results as in the experiment previously alluded to with the flue boiler. I omitted in the proper place to state the advantages gained by having the boiler arranged with a draw off valve, by which the "strike" can be accomplished in less than a minutes time. This lessens labor vastly and decreases the danger of scorching while that operation is proceeding. A wide fire place with corresponding doors, are desirable as they permit the temporary smothering of the fire with green *begasse* at that

juncture when the "striking" is commenced. Juice measuring 10° B has not been generally obtained, though where the cane was produced in favorable localities and matured perfectly, has I believe usually attained these figures and has in some instances considerably exceeded them. I do not deem 10 as an extravagant calculation, therefore for a general standard.

The clarification or cleaning of the juice at an early stage of the boiling, or as a preliminary to that process, has not I think been too strongly insisted on, though some of the modes for its accomplishment; appear more ingenious than necessary. The use of any considerable quantity of lime is certainly not requisite and tends to blacken the syrup as do all alkalies. They are believed, however, to be preservative, removing liability to fermentation and neutralizing the acids which, when largely prevalent, impedes chrysalization. As in treating the juice of the Southern or India cane, liberal skimming is not only a virtue but a necessity, and should not be discontinued until the batch approaches completion, or in fact, until the feculent matter has been removed entirely.

Much speculation has been indulged in as to the cause and prevention of a peculiar scorched or slightly bitter taste often prevalent in the syrup when there was good reason to suppose that it could not have been burned in cooking or concentrating. The opinion has obtained entertainment recently that this is the result of a gluey or gummy feculancy peculiar to the juice, which, as the heat is raised and the lighter portions are floated to the tops is precipitated upon the sides or bottom of the evaporator and there actually scorched, and at a subsequent period of the boiling process incorporated in the general mass either in a state of solution or otherwise. My own investigations do not dispel my uncertainty on this point, but a correspondent in whose opinion I have much confidence asserts that stirring the juice constantly until the heat is raised to or beyond 160° Fah. will prevent this precipitation. I beg to call the attention of practical operators to the matter as worthy their most earnest consideration another season.

Notwithstanding the unexpected length of this report I cannot forbear to consider the application of steam to the expressing and evaporation of cane juice.—This agent has only been tested with the Sorghum to a limited extent during the year just closed, but enough to prove that it serves as well with this as with the Southern cane. I think that the expense of an outfit for working off a crop by steam will hardly be justified except in cases where it is contemplated to refine, or use the machinery for

running a saw or grist mill, or for other work, during the vacations of the cane season. Steam boilers with coil pipe covering the bottom and with wide flaring rims like a hatters kettle and with a draw off valve at the bottom to facilitate the "strike," seem to combine more advantage for evaporating than any other arrangement I have examined.

The vacuum pan is most esteemed in sugar making but is only used when the juice has been concentrated to or beyond 25° B and when the clarification is complete.

The power of refining is by no means an elaborate or at least intricate one.—In the first place a supply of granulated animal (bone) charcoal is requisite. In the preparation of this large solid bones are preferred, which are placed in closed retorts and burned or heated by fire admitted from a suitable furnace around the retorts, until nothing but the pure coal or carbon remains. This is then removed and the coal broken or ground coarsely in a corn crusher or other mill of some sort. That which passes a No. 4 sieve is esteemed by refiners as sufficiently coarse. That which is not fine enough for passage through such a sieve is to be again ground and all of the remainder which passes a No. 10 sieve is considered too fine and is to be rejected for this use. This granulated or coarse coal is placed in wooden tubs, frequently six or eight feet deep, with faucets at their lower ends, which may be opened or closed at pleasure. A thick blanket or piece of carpeting covers the bottom of the tub underneath the coal, to act as a strainer. The syrup is now emptied into a tub or tank called a "blow up," in the bottom of which is a wrought metal pipe perforated at intervals with small holes, admitting the steam directly into the syrup when let on from the boiler. This raises the temperature to the boiling point in due time, but as a considerable of it condenses meanwhile, the syrup is reduced to 25 or 28° B by this condensation, and a thick scum is generally thrown up, which, is to be carefully removed. If now drawn off and allowed to stand two or three hours a considerable amount of sediment will be precipitated. It is then ready for the coal upon which a stream about the size of a pipe stem is allowed to run; the faucet at the bottom of the coal filter being closed, until the filter tub is full. This should stand about ten hours thus, when the faucet below may be opened, and a small stream allowed to run out, and again the supply of syrup above be permitted to run in once more in the same slow manner as before. This liquid is next to be re-boiled to about 32° B while hot, if for syrup and then drawn into a cooler, and stirred with a sort of plunger until cooled down to about 150° Fah. otherwise there

is danger of its scorching itself in the cooler, from its own heat confined within the mass by the cooling at the top crust or scum. This should not be lost sight of by any person who attempts syrup or sugar making. Before taking leave of subject it may be well to add that the syrup is followed through the filter with hot water, admitted in same careful manner and when the stream issuing from below has too little saccharine for profitable concentrating, the balance so long as any sweet at all remains in it is used in the "blow up." The coal is now removed from the filter tubs and returned, a few inches from the top being previously washed in hot water thoroughly. The coal retorts are usually tapering iron pipes set in a brick chamber into which the fire is admitted. The setting of these pipes is best accomplished in such a manner that their tops and bottom may be approached while the fire is going on inside the furnace and around their sides. When the coal is sufficiently burned remove the bottom of the retorts, and let the contents fall out. After closing the bottom again fill up anew from the top and close and burn again without disturbing the fire. About ten per cent. loss is experienced in the re-burning if I have been correctly informed.

It should be borne in mind that good plantation Molasses is requisite for making good golden or refined syrup. I have the honor to submit herewith three samples of syrup made by E. S. Ricker Esq., of Clermont co., Ohio. 1st. Made last year (1857) and refined. 2d. Made in '58 and also refined. 3d. Made in '58 and not refined. It will be perceived by the first that no deterioration takes place from age; it yet retaining its mellow and agreeable taste. The two latter show the very marked improvement in manufacture of '58 over '57, as well as the improvement by refining. I also accompany these with a sample boiled to a chrystalizable consistency, which I have taken from the refinery without affording time for thorough chrystalization. Mr. R. has enough of this, as he assures me, for 1000 pounds of sugar. I beg to point your particular attention to the specimens of the manufacture of '58 refined, as it is a fair sample of a crop, consisting of 22 barrels made by Mr. E. S. Ricker and boiled in open cast iron pans, which entire lot was lately sold, in this city by Mr. R. at sixty cents per gallon the round lot.—The sample and sale at those figures demonstrate, it seems to me, very clearly that good syrup may be made from Northern grown cane, and when well made it can compete on equal terms with Southern or Cuban syrup in our markets.

I also lay before you three samples of

spirits. No. 1, is pure Sorgho brandy, 14 months old, distilled by Messrs. Ingraham & Son of this city. The process consisted in first fermenting the juice and then running twice in copper stills. No. 2, is the same mixed with an equal quantity of Catawba brandy. No. 3, is pure Catawba brandy. It will be observed that the mixture is no less delicate and pleasing so far as aroma, and delicacy of flavor are concerned, than the pure Catawba. It is the opinion of wine merchants here that the Sorgho rum or brandy will prove of much value for admixture with other liquors. I was induced to make this comparison by observing a paragraph in Mons. Huc's very excellent work, "Travels in Tartary Thibet and China;" on page 97, in speaking of the productions of Eastern Tartary or Manchooria, (a province extending from about 41° to 52 or 53° N. Lat.) He observes, "they have also abundant harvests of Millet of Rao-Leang or Indian corn, (*Holcus Sorghum* from which they distill excellent brandy."

Some rather imperfect experiments, I have made satisfy me, that a palatable beverage may be made in the following manner: Express the cane juice prior to frosts, and reduce with water to about 5° B. To 5 gallons of this add one pint of the juice of either currants, goose or cran-berries, or even of the common rhubarb plant, and half pint of yeast. Set this in a room warmed to summer heat, uncovered until well fermented, then pour it off carefully from the lees or sediment. Suspend in the centre of the vessel containing this, a bunch of isinglass, until the remaining sediment is fully precipitated then again decant and bottle. Lay away in a cool cellar 6 or 8 months and you have passable wine.

In conclusion, I deduce the following summary.

1st. A crop of cane the juice of which shall mark 10° B. may be relied on generally from good dry soils, either upland or bottom, but heavy rank and wet grounds are not favorable to saccharine development.

2nd. Both quantity and quality justify the continued culture of the cane in latitude even as high as 45° if not 50°.

3d. There should be system in the management throughout, and the greatest possible simplicity of machinery consistent with efficiency.

4th. Get everything ready as early in the season as possible then prosecute your work vigorously to completion whenever you have made a commencement.

5th. Sugar boiling is a trade and experience your best teacher; study care-

fully the experiments of others, and exercise your judgment.

6th. Thin syrup is liable to ferment which is not the case with thick.

7th. Alkalies are preservative but do not possess great advantage in clarifying.

8th. Frosts succeeded by warm weather, prove injurious to the cane. Precaution would therefore suggest that it be previously cut.

9th. Rapid boiling and thorough clarification are cardinal virtues.

10th. The immature upper portion of the stem are best rejected and only the lower part should be made use of.

11th. Stir the syrup in the cooler after having made your strike.

12th. *Acquire sufficient skill to produce superior syrup and sugar will make itself.*

ISAAC A. HEDGES.

Cincinnati, O., 1859.

Sheep in Spring.

A. D. Nicholls writes to the *Country Gentleman*:

Sheep should always be "tagged" before they are let into pastures. By tagging, I mean cutting all the wool from around the tail, thus preventing the sheep from getting dirty and diseased. The first grass always has a laxative effect upon the sheep, and unless they are tagged, a considerable proportion of the flock will become dirty. The "taggings" are to be put away until shearing, when they can be washed in soap suds, and after being dried can be put into the fleeces as they are "done up." This is our practice, and we always inform the wool-buyer of the fact. There can thus be no loss in tagging the sheep, and the buyer cannot complain, as it is as well washed as the fleece. Two or three pounds are thus saved from every 100 sheep, which would be lost if they were not tagged.

The lambs should also all be docked and all the ram lambs be castrated, (unless the breeder wishes to reserve the best for sale or use,) as they do not bleed as much as when they are neglected until washing and shearing time. There is no danger from flies at this season of the year, and the lambs are all healed by the time the flies come, so that no turpentine or other insect repeller is needed, to the evident discomfort of the lamb. It is also necessary that the pastures be sufficiently grown to furnish the flocks with sufficient food. Nothing is gained by turning out a week or two before the grass is good, as the sheep will lose flesh, and the pastures will be eaten so close as to injure them. It is always better to buy a ton or two of hay, and a few bushels of corn, than to let the flocks half starve on short, poor pastures; or as some do, to turn their sheep into the road to save hay by annoying their neighbors. Lastly, see that you have not too many sheep for your pastures. This is apt to be the case, no allowance being made for the lambs, and in reality they eat as much in proportion to their weight as the older sheep, while the milk they get is need-

ed to make them grow. As an example, I might cite the well known fact that a boy 12 or 15 years old, will eat as much as a laboring man. Salt the sheep twice per week, and change their pastures frequently, and the condition of the sheep and the quality and weight of the wool are both improved, to the owner's profit.

Cranberry Culture.

A writer in the *Germantown Telegraph* has collected a number of facts in regard to this fruit, in a measure new to us, and of a character to encourage the culture of this important fruit. He writes as follows:

The American Cranberry (*Oxycoccus Macrocarpus*) is so familiar to us that a detailed description of the berry would be useless; but of the many thousands who enjoy this racy fruit, very few know whether it grows on trees, bushes or vines; and fewer still have any idea of the extent to which it is cultivated in some sections of our country; nor of the quantities annually exported to England.

The market value of this berry ranges from three to six dollars per bushel, varying of course, as do all other fruits, with the supply and demand, but rarely even in the most productive seasons falling below three dollars.

The American Cranberry is divided by growers and dealers into three varieties—the Bell, the Bugle, and the Cherry.

Although the cranberry will grow on almost any soil where the water is not more than a foot from the surface, yet experience has proved that the soil best adapted to them is nothing more nor less than plain beach sand, entirely free from any matter, either animal or vegetable—in fact, this berry may be said to live entirely on air and water.

Peat is found to be well adapted to this berry, but requires some care in preparing, owing to its liability to break and crack in hot weather; this may be obviated, however, by taking off the turf and grass, leaving the surface exposed to the action of the weather for a year, after which it becomes light and porous, and fit for the reception of the vines.

The cultivation of this berry being as yet quite recent, there exists considerable difference of opinion as to the most suitable time and best methods of planting.

Sod planting was the plan adopted by the first cultivators of this vine, and consisted of simply removing sods of wild vines to ground prepared to receive them. Experience soon taught them, however, that in removing the sod thus, they not only planted vines, but also a host of noxious weeds and grasses, which gave them much trouble to extirpate.

Planting separate vines has been found to be the most effectual plan, and although it consumes more time, and is perhaps attended with rather more expense than sod planting, yet from the absence of weeds and the fine chance for the vines to spread, the cultivator finds himself amply repaid for the increased outlay.

Cutting-planting has been adopted by some as the most economical plan; and as the plant sends out long runners, sometimes

to the length of five or six feet, it is self-evident that the first cost of the cuttings must be small. The cutting should be about six or eight inches long, and should be planted by thrusting the middle into the earth with a dibble, permitting a few inches of each end projecting, so that when it takes root you have two plants instead of one.

Another plan of propagating by cuttings, is to cut the vines into pieces of about two inches in length, for which purpose a common hay-cutter may be used, and sowing them broadcast on the ground prepared for them, and then harrowing them in as you would wheat or rye. Or, and I think it preferable, planting them in drills at such distances as will permit cultivation with the plow for the first two years. These small cuttings will soon take root from the point where the root joins the stem, and will send out runners the second year after planting.

The distance of planting must be regarded by the nature of the soil; if liable to weeds you must give yourself room to work among the vines; but if you are planting on plain beach sand, the closer your plants are the better, for the great object in forming a cranberry yard is to have the entire surface covered by a thick mat of vines as soon as possible.

The time of planting generally adopted, is in the spring, as in this case the roots are not so liable to be thrown out by the winter frosts; say from the fifteenth of April to the first of June.

There seems to be many and adverse opinions as to the proper location of cranberry yards, but it seems to me the nearer we approach to the examples given us by Nature, the nearer will we be right.

Many efforts have been made to cultivate the cranberry economically on uplands, but so far as my observation extends, without success; for where there is an absence of a plentiful supply of water during the summer the vines die.

Meadow lands, which are low and moist, free from stagnant water, and somewhat sheltered from storms, may be considered the best locations.

A position where the yard can be flooded in winter is very desirable, as the vines, when exposed to very severe weather, are liable to be winter killed down as low as the roots, which throws them back in bearing for a year; besides which it is sometimes desirable to flood them during the season to prevent the attack of the worm, which in some localities is quite destructive.

An acre of vines, properly cultivated and well matted, will produce at least two hundred and fifty bushels of berries; in some instances a yield of four hundred bushels per acre has been obtained, but this is above the average, and may not be relied on.

Two hundred and fifty bushels of berries, at the lowest price of three dollars per bushel, gives us seven hundred and fifty dollars as the product of one acre, which I think will compare very favorably with even a California gold mine, and will I hope induce many of your intelligent readers to make a visit to New Jersey, where there are large tracts admirably suited for its cultivation, on which are growing wild vines enough to stock a country.

White Beans.

EDITOR OF THE FARMER:

The information and instruction furnished by the *Illinois Farmer* are generally of a practical and always of a reliable character. In this respect, it very materially differs from some of its quite fashionable and very numerous cotemporaries; hence its great service in promoting the agricultural interests of our State.

The western farmer, with extremely few exceptions, does not need an extended grammatically elaborated, and finely spun theory upon the production of any of the great staples to which he looks for the support of himself, his family, and the government that protects him. That knowledge which was gained by experience, and is communicated to us in plain, brief English, is just what at all times we need, and will gladly receive. The admirable premium essay on sheep, in your last number, is a fine illustration of the idea I suggest. That article is so very sensible, so absolutely free from twaddle and highfalutin, that one who never saw a sheep, could not read it without becoming interested in the subject of which it treats. So, also, the good-natured scolding of "Mehitable." Alas! how true are her charges. Yes, madam, we acknowledge, the yoke, the chips, the stovepipe, the boots, shoes and crockery—and more; we confess, that many a "three hours" have been thrown away in leaning against a fence, or sitting upon a stump, talking with an incidental passer or caller, about the election of Douglas, the gold of Pike's Peak, or the polygamy of the Mormons. And we may as well confess that too many of us are in the habit of wasting twice three hours in town, or at our country stores on Saturdays, when one hour in most cases would be all sufficient for the transaction of our actual business. The fact is, my dear Mrs. M., the men—deny it as we may—are just as fond of gossip as are the women.

Well, methinks, would it be for our cultivators, had they adopted and carried out the opinion of your excellent correspondent, "Homo." His opinions are so clearly expressed that they cannot be misunderstood. I believe in small farms for tillage. My faith, however, may be remotely connected with my inability to own a large one. Be this as it may, one thing is true, that my farm of just twenty acres, eight of which are occupied by orchards, garden, house, barn, and lawn, does keep me provokingly busy. And another thing is true, that I have been selling corn to some other farmers, whose farms are each six times as big as mine, at 65, 75 and 85 cents, at my crib, and have still a good supply on hand.

It is my opinion that a large portion of the products or profits of a big farm, often disappear through the wastefulness and down the throats of hired men, and hungry horses.

But, Mr. Editor, my real intention in writing you on this occasion was to ask Mr. "Bean Hill" for a little more instruction about bean planting. In his article he omitted to state the time when they should be put in the ground. This I would like to know, for I have a piece of land sloping west that I wish to plant with beans. Will he also inform us how we are to know the different sorts he mentions? I bought one-

half bushel the other day for \$1.00. They are very white, very clean, and were highly recommended. On cooking some of them, we found they did not swell; the skins soon loosened, and although they tasted good, yet they did not thicken the water, and were not as rich as I hoped they would be. Ought I to plant such?

On trimming my Osage hedge, about the last week in April, I found the largest of the plants all cut off by the gopher, some six inches below the surface. The stalks cut off were three-fourths to an inch in diameter. Is there any remedy? Can these underground pirates be exterminated?

Before long I will take the liberty of offering you an item or two respecting the forthcoming apple crop. J. R. W.

Woodville, May 14, 1859.

In answer to the request of our correspondent, we give the following extracts from the forthcoming volume of the Transactions of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, furnishing the manner of cultivation of the two crops of beans for which the premiums of the society were awarded:

"Harrison Hancock, of Tazewell county, received the first premium. He says: 'The ground for my beans was plowed in May. The weather still continued to be wet and rainy until the last of June. I then plowed again, harrowed the ground smooth, and then laid it off in rows one way, about three feet apart. I dropped the beans in a drill, form, say eighteen inches apart the other way. I planted one-half bushel to the acre. The kind I planted was what is called the 'White Pea Bean,' (larger than the small white bean.) In regard to plowing beans, they should not be plowed or hoed except in the dry part of the day. I plow and hoe from one to three times.'

H. HANCOCK.

Levi Mann, of Buda, Bureau county, was awarded a medal for his crop of beans. He says: 'I this year raised, on half an acre of ground, eight hundred and sixteen pounds of beans. The land on which these beans grew was broken two years ago last spring. It is a warm and light soil in ordinary seasons. It is prairie loam, with a moderate mixture of sand, with a southern exposure. The quantity of seed was about twenty-seven pounds. The kind was the *small* white bean. The beans were planted the first week of May. Marks for rows were made with the chain two feet apart. I used Wakefield's hand corn planter, and gauged to drop about six beans in a hill, and made the hills about ten inches apart in the row. The ground had been plowed in the latter part of April. The beans were hoed twice after they came up, by which means the ground was kept clean and mellow.'

LEVI MANN."

We are inclined to the belief that the best bean for our rich soils is the "White Pea Bean,"—(in size about twice as large as the *small* white bean.) The stalks or holm of the White Pea Bean rarely fall upon the ground, and the crop is preserved from mould and injury. In the use of the small bean, in wet seasons, the holm falls upon the ground, and

many of the beans are spoiled by mould and mildew. Pure and clean white beans always bring a higher price in market than those injured by mould. We have procured a fine stock of the large bean for planting.

Wool-Growers' and Manufacturers' Convention.

We hope every newspaper in the country friendly to the important interests of wool-growing and manufacturing, will publish the following call for a convention, to be held in Cleveland, on the 4th day of August next:

WOOL-GROWERS' CALL.

The subscribers, having at heart the interest of the wool-growers of the West, suggest that a fair be held at Cleveland, at as early a day as convenient after shearing, for the purpose of exhibiting the different styles of wool, and that the awarding committee of manufacturers be selected, from whom wool-growers will be likely to receive many suggestions, which may prove useful in enabling them to select the most desirable style of wool to grow. We would further suggest: first, that Goodale & Co., of Cleveland, be requested to make the necessary arrangements for carrying out this fair: second, that such competition be open to every wool-grower in the Union: third, that manufacturers be invited to attend such fair.

We believe that an interchange of views would result in the mutual benefit of manufacturers and wool-growers, whose interests are identical. We have, in some sections of the country, Market Fairs, for the sale of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, &c. In our judgment, no article of farm produce would be more benefitted by Market Fairs than wool. We would, therefore, recommend that the above-named firm offer to manufacturers, on the day of the fair, the wool that may be accumulated, and which may be accumulated at the Cleveland Wool Depot.

This plan will, we believe, meet with the favor of manufacturers and wool growers, or merchants having wool for sale, and will be likely to insure competition by the large attendance of manufacturers, and will favorably impress all wool-growers with the importance of that union and system in marketing wools which seems so desirable.

Signed by Adam Hilderbrand and Henry Everhard, of Massillon; Simon Perkins, Akron; Harvey Baldwin, Hudson; Wm. Bonar, Mt. Vernon; Thos. Brown, Cleveland; Edwin Wetmore, Cuyahoga Falls; Josiah Wetmore, Stow; William Perkins, Franklin Mills; Thomas Gorby, Randolph; William Shaw, New Baltimore; D. Tenstemaker, Jackson; William Saint, New Baltimore; H. R. Wise, Middle Branch; Henry Hoover, New Berlin; James McDowell, Jas. Lockport, Thos. Stephenson, Rawson Bourn, Eliphalet Wyeatt, Everett Farnham and John H. Jones, Canton; Secretary Rawson, Richfield; Henry K. Bedford and Hoel Sabin, Randolph; Henry Rutheraff, New Berlin, J. G. Lester, Canton; John Snyder, McDonaldsville; Dwight Jarvis, Massillon; Augustus Adams, Brecksville; John Noble, Richfield, and others.

In compliance with a request, numerous

signed by some of the most prominent wool-growers in the State, we have decided to make the necessary arrangements, and would here announce that a Wool-Growers' Fair will be held at Cleveland, on the 4th day of August next.

The advantages of such fairs must be apparent to all, and need not be enumerated here. The proposed Wool-Growers' Fair will, however, differ from all other similar exhibitions in one important particular, to wit: the exhibitors of wool will meet face to face with the consumers of their product; and by a personal interview, and interchange of ideas, can be made better acquainted with the true situation and wants of the latter, and both parties will no doubt be able to make suggestions that may prove materially beneficial. As the outlines are so clearly defined in the call, little remains for us to do, except to arrange details. We have already procured a very respectable subscription, which will enable handsome premiums to be awarded to successful exhibitors, and which will be placed in the hands of a committee of wool-growers, to be distributed among the different styles of fine, medium and long wools as the committee, in their wisdom, may decide. The committee for awarding premiums will be selected from among manufacturers.

Competition will be open to every wool-grower in the United States; and we would invite all wool-growers, east or west, who may feel interested in the enterprise, to consign their samples to our care; and should any not be present to take care of their wool on the day of the fair, it will be reshipped, or disposed of as directed. Not more than ten, nor less than five fleeces, of one class, will be entered for competition.

The names of owners will not be made known to the awarding committee, until the premiums are awarded.

Parties consigning wool to us for sale, may, if they request, have us select from their clips the number of fleeces named above for exhibition.

We have long advocated the propriety of farmers establishing such fairs, at commercial points, accessible to both growers and consumers, where wools can be marketed; and we shall be pleased to test the expediency of this plan, believing as we do that it will lead to annual fairs for the exhibition and sale of wools. The proposed fair, in August next, will afford a favorable opportunity, which we should be pleased to avail ourselves of, to offer for sale such wools as may be consigned to us for that purpose, as there will be a general attendance of eastern manufacturers. Having corresponded with, and visited many of the latter, we feel justified in stating that they will be largely represented on that occasion. We have no doubt large consignments of wool will be made with the view of offering the same for sale on the day of the fair, as no better opportunity can possibly be presented to wool-growers, and others having wool to dispose of. We shall, however, as stated in our yearly advertisement, dated 1st of April, hold ourselves in readiness to make early sales, on receipt of wool, if consignors so direct. We hope to see not only large con.

signments, but a large attendance of wool-growers, on the occasion.

GOODALE & CO., Cleveland.

Fertility of the Holy Land.

No country of equal size probably contains greater inequality of surface than Palestine—varying from the peaks of Lebanon, 10,000 feet above the sea level, of the plain of Jerico, 1,300 feet below it. Hence the Holy Land afforded almost every variety of vegetable productions; and when in its glory, populous and cultivated, and enjoying the smiles of Jehovah, it was not unworthy of the glowing rhapsody of Dr. Hamilton, the emphatic terms of which are almost all from the Bible:

"A better country than this earth did not contain. It was 'a delightful' and 'a pleasant land;' 'a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations.' It was variegated and intersected with all the elements of sublimity and beauty, with whatever was bold and gentle. It was a wealthy place. Aromatic herds covered its hills, and the fairest flowers decked its glens. The rose was in Sharon, and the lily in the valleys. The voice of the turtle was heard in the land. There roamed the vine, and there clustered the date, and there hung the pomegranate. The cedar towered on the mountains and the myrtle skirted their sides. No human hand could raise the clusters of Eschol. The south wind, passing over the gardens, caused the spices thereof to flow out. The seasons revolved in their variety, but with a blended sweetness. There was the upland breeze, in which the fir could wave its arms, and the softer air, in which the olive unfolded its blossom. The sun smote not by day, nor moon by night. The birds sang among the branches. The dew lay thick in Hermon. There was balm in Gilead. The linaloe drooped from the river bank. Lakes glistened in the landscape, and cooled the drought. Beautiful for situation was Mount Zion. The cattle browsed on a thousand hills. The excellency of Carmel and the glory of Lebanon set their pinnacles against the deep azure of Canaan's sky. The year was crowned with goodness. The Lord God cared for the land, and his eye was always upon it. At the stated period fell the early and latter rain. The pastures were clothed with flocks. The ploughman overtook the reaper, and the treader of grains him that sowed the seed. The barns were filled with plenty, and the presses burst out with new wine. The little hills rejoiced on every side. The vineyards distilled the pure blood of the grape. The fountain of Jacob was upon a land of corn and wine. The inhabitants were filled with the finest of the wheat. It flowed with milk and honey. Its heavens dropped fatness. The land might be called Beulah. The distant glimpse of its prospect refreshed the flying eye of Moses; and of all thine earthly territory this is emphatically thy land, O Immanuel!"

This flowery description by no means applies to Palestine as it now is. Depopulated, misgoverned, it has become as desolated as it once was beautiful and fertile; and testifies to the truth of God's word, "Woe be unto them when I depart from them."

[From the Chicago Press and Tribune.]

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.—In all business transactions requiring the use of scales, it is of great importance to both buyer and seller that only such should be used as are *reliable*; otherwise vexatious discrepancies in weights, and oftentimes serious losses and litigations, are sure to follow. It is everywhere acknowledged, and that after the most extensive use in all branches of business for more than thirty years, and the most thorough and varied tests, that Fairbanks' scales are unequalled by *any* others in correctness, convenience and durability; and were their capacity rated as high in proportion to their actual size and strength, they would be much less in *price* than any others.

So strongly, and justly too, is public opinion in favor of these scales, that other makers, as well as their local and traveling agents, represent their scales as Fairbanks', or *like* them in construction and quality, when in *reality* they are no more like them, though similar in external *appearance*, than a poor watch is like a good one. As almost every one is interested that only correct scales should be used, we think we do the public a service in advising them that the *genuine Fairbanks' Scales*, made at St. Johnsbury, Vt., and *only* there, may be had of Fairbanks & Greenleaf, 35 Lake street, or of any of their authorized agents.

PRESERVATION OF LEATHER.—Mr. Jenne, of Elgin, Kane county, writes, in answer to an inquiry for a preservative for leather, that he has two—one for boots and the other for harness—which he obtained from a man who had been employed in cleaning and oiling harness in the East India service, as he said, by paying for it; the former was given to me as an especial favor. I have tested them both for several years, and find them first rate—either is worth to every subscriber of "our paper," the price for one year. They are as follows: For boots and shoes, take 6 oz. bayberry wax; 4 oz. beeswax; 6 oz. mutton, or beef tallow; 1-3 paper lamp-black, pulverized; melt and stir a good deal; heat a brush to apply with. For harness—beeswax, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; mutton tallow, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; neatsfoot oil, 1 pint; yellow soap, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; boil until completely melted, keeping them well stirred all the time; apply warm, the leather being moist and clean; hang the harness in a warm place—a warm, sunny day is best; when finished, if rubbed briskly with a dry, clean cloth, a fine polish will be obtained, giving every appearance of new leather. If any blacking is needed, add lamp-black. I am confident that fifty per cent. will be added to the wear of harness treated once a year with the above preparation."

Editor of the Farmer:—In the fall of 1857, I undertook to make some Wine from Catawba grapes. I got eleven gallons of pure juice; but I am sorry to say that it is not wine yet, and never will be. So thus far my operation was a failure. My labor, however, was not all lost, for one thing grew out of it, which I think will be of use to me, and may be of advantage to others. Let me explain. After passing the grapes through my cider mill, I put the pumice

in a large cask with a quantity of apple pumice, set the cask on a bench and filled it up with water. A few days afterwards, with a gimlet I taped the cask near the lower end and fixed the spile so that the vinegar—for that I was trying to make—would just drop, drop, into a long stone jar. Going to the jar on the following morning, I was greatly astonished and not a little vexed to find the top of the vinegar covered about one inch thick with bugs, moths, and many sorts of winged and wingless insects, and many of which I had never met with before. Not being an entomologist I could indentify but a few, but among these was a variety which I do hate, and that is the bee moth. The vinegar was lost of course, and I concluded to cover the vessel in part during the next night, just leaving space for the dropping to pass in. The next morning the number and variety of the insects on and in the vinegar, far exceeded that of the previous day. And then ended my experience in vinegar making upon that plan.

Last summer the moths were very destructive in my apiary. In trying to invent some method of checking their ravages, I bethought me of the fate that befell so many of their progenitors the previous season in my vinegar pot. I immediately procured an old wash tub filled it about half full of well watered old cider, and placed it near the hives; In a few days I had the satisfaction of seeing hundreds of the moths lying lifeless in the tub, but I noticed fewer of the other kinds of insects than were caught in the jars. The peculiar flavor of the gas among the apple pumice may have attracted the insects to the jar in the first instance, but I am inclined to think that they prefer going into a dark place, and that a vessel 4 inches diameter and 2 feet in depth, one third full of liquid would be the most successful trap that could be set for them. I began early this spring with my experiment and now have several jars in different places under trees.—Thus far I am encouraged to believe that the plan will be unusually successful. Moth and Bugs are beginning to tumble in, and ere the month of June closes, thousands and thousands of our orchard and apiary pests will have found a vinegary grave. Who knows but the curculio the rose and the vine bug may be lessened if not exterminated by hard cider.

J. R. W.

WOODWILD, May 16, 1859.

The great trotting match in double harness, for \$10,000, between Ethan Allen and Lantern, over the Union Course, Long Island, took place on Wednesday. The first heat was run in 2 min. and 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds—the shortest time on record—and was a 'dead heat.' Ethan Allen won the race. Lantern did not win a single heat; two were dead heats.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, JUNE 1, 1859.

Evergreens.

The discussions at the late meeting of the State Horticultural Society, at Bloomington, have directed the attention of farmers on the prairies to the planting of trees for protection of their farms and orchards from the winds that sweep over them. Much can be done to effect this object by the use of deciduous trees. The silver maple is probably the best for this purpose, because it grows quick, makes a dense head, is beautiful, and the wood is good for fuel and timber—not the best for timber, but can be made very useful. Evergreens, however, are the most perfect protection. Hitherto the demand for these trees has been so small, that nurserymen could not sell them at prices which would place them within the means of farmers for planting out for protection, but this will not long be the case. We venture to say that more evergreens will be planted out in the nurseries of Illinois, the present year, than in the ten years which have preceded it. The northern evergreen regions will be ransacked for plants suitable for planting in nurseries.

It is a mystery to some men unacquainted with the habits of evergreens, why there is necessity for planting evergreens in nurseries to prepare them for replanting upon farms. This is readily explained. The young evergreens are taken from the timber where they have grown in the shade. When taken up they have a very few leading roots—scarcely any fibrous roots. The young plants, when taken up, have their roots covered with moss or earth, and are thus packed and sent to the nurseries.

There they are put into the ground with great care. Sometimes, even with the utmost care, twenty, and even a higher per cent., die. At the end of a year it is found that the living plants have formed new fibrous roots. They are then raised and replanted, and thus the fibrous roots of the plants are increased, and growing separate, exposed to sun and air, they send out lateral branches, which constitute a leading feature and beauty of the tree. If taken up after this, the roots carefully protected from drying, and planted out in well prepared ground, they are just as likely to live as apple or other deciduous trees. The failure of evergreens grows out of the neglect of the laws of vegetable physiology.

Farmers are often discouraged in attempting to secure evergreens for ornamental trees, and for protection. They will tell you that they have tried evergreens and

can't make them live. How have they tried them? They have bought trees from unprincipled pedlars, who have brought them from the pineries, or other evergreen localities.

These trees are usually large—sometimes six feet high—and look well; but they are dead before they go into the hands of our farmers. Usually a little soil is taken up with the tree, and this is left above the roots—perhaps held together by the roots of wintergreen, or other wild plants. Take up the tree and look at the roots, and you will find them dry—the sap converted into resin—all the wetting will not afterwards restore them to life. It will be seen also that these trees from the woods have but few roots. The country has been filled with such trees. Those who bring them for sale, know that they are all likely to die, and yet swindle our farmers into the purchase of them. And these evergreen pedlars do this thing year after year, and always find men willing to be cheated.

If farmers want evergreens, they can obtain them from the nurseries, and they can be very certain to make them grow. They cost a little more than the worthless plants brought from the woods; they cost the nurserymen more; but they are worth all they cost. They are reliable young trees. They can be selected for their beauty of shape, and for their flourishing appearance, and ever will be the pride and ornament of the farm.

How many thousands of wild evergreen trees have been sold in Springfield? We venture to say more than fifty thousand! It would be difficult to find one for every thousand sold here alive.

We have said that there was a great desire among our farmers and the residents of our cities to possess evergreens. They can succeed in gratifying their desires by going the right way to work. They should get their evergreens from nurseries, and from nurseries as convenient to them as possible. Make the nurseryman responsible for the manner of packing these trees, and plant them out under his direction, and you will succeed in having evergreens which will not only be beautiful in summer, but will cheer the eye and the heart in the desolations of winter.

Protection for Orchards.

On a visit to Morgan county, on the 19th April, we were struck by the appearance of a peach orchard on "the Seibert farm," near Jacksonville, in full blossom—a sight we did not again see any where. We had no time to visit this orchard, but its situation demonstrates the advantages of protection on

the south and west sides—a doctrine set forth in the address of Hon. M. L. Dunlap, at the meeting of the State Horticultural Society, at Bloomington, in December last, and which received the entire approbation of the Society.

The peach orchard was on high land, and had a timber protection on the west and south. We have said that we saw no other peach orchard in bloom. We did not. The trees of this orchard were covered with bloom.

We regard this evidence in favor of the theory announced at Bloomington as very important.

SUGAR CANE—A NEW THEORY.—R. Emmerson, Jr., of Rockford, has invented a mill for expressing the juice of the sugar cane, and in the explanation of which he advances the following theory:

The raising of Chinese Sugar Cane, or Sorghum, is now attracting much attention, and but one thing seems to be in the way of its general growth, which is, that the syrup made from it is not always of good quality, and but few have succeeded in making sugar. By careful investigation I have been led to believe the reason of this failure is, that the sap or juice of the bark or rind, which contains acid, is mixed up with the better sap of the pith or inside of the cane. In my mill the sap of the pith is first extracted by moderate pressure, and is received in a separate pan from that which is afterwards pressed out of the outer part of the cane.

It is believed that in this way the sap from the first two pressures will make the very best quality of syrup, and also sugar, while that from the last two pressures will make the very best quality of molasses; and it is further believed that this invention and proper care in boiling is alone wanting to make the raising of sugar and molasses one of the great staples of this Western country.

We have no doubt but the ingenuity of our countrymen will solve all the mysteries which prevent the making of sugar, readily, from the Chinese sugar cane. Mr. Emmerson may have already succeeded in doing this. We are induced to think that his is an important discovery.

Hedges, Free & Co., of Cincinnati, have published a large pamphlet the present spring, containing the results of experience in all parts of the country in relation to the growing of sugar cane, and the manufacture of its juice. It also contains descriptions of different mills and apparatus for compressing and working the juice, with prices, &c.

Persons can obtain these valuable pamphlets, by writing to Hedges, Free & Co.

The editor of the *New Orleans Bulletin* begs of having feasted already on green corn, full grown and remarkably delici us.

Apples for Illinois.

In the fall of 1857, the "Northwestern Fruit Growers' Association" held a meeting at Alton. There was a large number of fruit growers present, and we believe nearly every portion of the State was represented. Their proceedings were highly interesting. Among these were the selections made of different kinds of apples for this State. It will be recollected that this convention was held after the severe winters which destroyed many of the varieties of apple trees which before had succeeded well in our orchards. A list of the selections made was published at the time, but it was so obviously incorrect, that we did not copy it into the *Farmer*. We have now before us a true copy; which we give, furnished to the *Prairie Farmer*, by the Secretary, Hon. M. L. Dunlap.

List of Apples.

Recommended by the North-western Fruit Growers' Association, at their Meeting at Alton, October, 1857.

EDS. PRAIRIE FARMER:—The committee reported a list for Northern Illinois, and Wisconsin, and one for Central Illinois, and one for Egypt. We shall designate them by the letters N, C and E:

1 Early Harvest.....	N	C	E
2 Red June.....	N	C	E
3 Red Astrachan.....			E
4 Sweet Bough.....			E
5 Sweet June.....		C	E
6 Summer Rose.....		C	E
7 American Summer Pearmain.....		C	E
8 Ramsdell's Sweet.....	N		E
9 Golden Sweet.....		C	E
10 Yellow June.....		C	C
11 Kewick Codlin.....	N		C
12 Dana.....		C	C
13 Hocking.....	N		C
14 Fat Pine.....	N		C
15 Maiden's Blush.....	N		C
16 Rhode Island Green.....		C	E
17 White Bellflower.....		C	E
18 Rambo.....		C	E
19 Hubbardson's Nonesuch.....		C	E
20 Buckingham.....			E
21 Peck's Pleasant.....		C	E
22 Pryor's Red.....			E
23 Jonathan.....	N		C
24 Autumn Swaar (sweet).....		C	E
25 Downing's Paragon.....		C	
26 Fameuse.....	N		C
27 Roman Stem.....		C	C
28 Early Winter Sweet.....		C	C
29 Yellow Bellflower.....	N		C
30 Swaar.....	N		C
31 Fulton.....	N		C
32 Sweet Nonesuch.....	N		C
33 White Winter Pearmain.....	N		C
34 Early Pennock.....	N		
35 L. well.....	N		
36 Ladies' Sweet.....	N		
37 Domino.....	N		
38 Herefordshire Pearmain.....	N		
39 White Pippin.....	N		
40 Whitney's Russet.....	N		
41 Baily's Sweet.....	N		
42 Minkler's Sweet.....	N		
43 Red Canada.....		C	E
44 Willow Twig.....	N	C	E
45 Winesap.....	N	C	E
46 Raulle's Janet.....		C	E
47 Newton Pippin.....		C	E
48 Gilpin.....			E
49 Tallman Sweet.....	N		

No. 12 was recommended by the late William Stewart, of Adams county. The name is doubtless local and may prove an old sort.

Nos. 11, 26, 31 and 40 were unanimously recommended for general culture, at the meeting at Bloomington, and the only ones out of several hundred named that stood the test.

No. 20 was supposed by Dr. Warder to be Fall Queen, of Kentucky. Downing's de-

scription would seem to confirm the doctor's opinion.

No. 33 does remarkably well at Jonesboro.

No. 42. Its origin is uncertain and the association called it Minkler, after Mr. S. G. Minkler, of Kendall county, who introduced it.

No. 47 is in my estimation the apple of the *lime mud drift* of Egypt.

It should be borne in mind that many of these varieties passed by a close vote.

This association being held upon the heels of the *hard winter*, everything was rejected that yielded to the severe frost of that long to be remembered winter. Rambo was retained for the centre by a close vote. Those trees that were protected stood well, and their owners insisted on retaining this popular old sort. When orchardists protect their orchards by belts of deciduous or evergreen trees and underdrain them, we shall probably hear less complaint of tender sorts.

RURAL.

West Urbana, Feb. 28, 1859.

The War.

Is there to be a general European war? On the surface, every thing looks like it, but our belief is that such a war will not now take place. The crowned heads have too much at stake in a general war—thrones, kingdoms, dynasties. If war is the result of the invasion of Sardinia by Austria, and France and Russia act together, these two will be the great powers of Europe; and they will divide out Europe and portions of Turkey in Asia, as will suit them. France will have the control of Italy; Russia of the Danubian provinces, and Constantinople and the country in its neighborhood. Hungary may be made a nation to cripple Austria and Germany; and England, with all her wealth and strength, will sink to a second-rate power. Thus speculations are now running; but the result of battles may change the prospect, and Napoleon, instead of being King of Italy, may again be an exile from conquered France.

The results of war in Europe are so uncertain and so vast, that even crowned heads contemplate with fear. What else has prevented Austria from striking a blow in Sardinia? With an immense army there she is doing nothing. She could have had Sardinia at her feet before this time, had she dared to avail herself of the advantages of her position. France is pushing forward her troops, but does not strike.

We await further news from Europe with anxiety. If a general war does take place, we trust that our country may still enjoy the blessings of peace. Our sympathies are with the smaller powers of Europe, but we are sure that little benefit will result to the human race there, from war. What benefit to man has been the result of the Napoleon

wars? Is France better off now than under the Bourbons? Where does man in Europe now enjoy more of the "rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," than half a century ago? Echo answers, Where?

The Season.

In some portions of Illinois, the spring months have been very wet, and even at this time there is much land which, under favorable circumstances, would have been put in corn, that is not yet plowed. As a general fact, however, a vast extent of land is planted with corn. There is time yet for corn planting for two weeks. Good corn was made last year planted on the fifteenth of June. On the whole, the prospect for a corn crop is good—very good. Of wheat, we hope to have an ordinary crop; and the same fact we may state in regard to oats. We are told that our farmers are planting an unusual quantity of land in potatoes. We hope that Sangamon county will not have to import most of the potatoes required for the consumption of her people, another year, from Missouri, Michigan and Minnesota. Meadows look well. We trust our farmers will heed the experience of the past, and provide fodder for their stock the coming winter. Now is the time to do it. Hungarian Millet will yield from three to seven tons of the richest fodder per acre. Sugar cane millet will do more than this, the seed sown broadcast and harrowed in, and the ground afterwards rolled.

The eyes of our whole country are upon the farmers of the West. We hope to have good crops, and we anticipate good prices. Let us have one good crop season, and the faces of our people—farmers and business men—will assume a cheerfulness not much witnessed for the last two years.

Hog Cholera.

We have seen it published in the papers that there has been hog cholera at Farmington in this county, and near Carrollton, in Green county. We have our doubts upon this subject, and will explain. Our opinion is that the hogs which were said to have been killed by the cholera had been fed dry food for the winter, and were turned upon the fresh herbage of Spring, which, in consequence of excessive rains, possessed but little nutrition, that they gorged themselves with this green food, and that it purged them to death. That is our explanation of the matter. We hear of no further losses of Hogs in Farmington, and the farmers in that neighborhood are hearing no loss of their hogs from cholera.

A disease which would sweep off our


hogs would be a sad calamity. We do not think that the prevalence of such a disease is threatened. We shall have a great crop of corn in the fall. We want hogs to eat it. Every farmer ought to keep his eye on his hogs—do as well as he can by them—get more, if he can. With other farm products, pork we believe, will be high in the fall.

Now is the Time!

Farmers! have you put in all the seeds, for grain, and fodder, and roots, which will mature crops this season? If not, now is the time! A few days and you will be too late for many of them; and perchance your purses will be lank in consequence. Your stock may suffer next spring, and you may have the mortification to see many hides stretched upon the fence and smell the effluvia from dead stock upon the Prairies!

There are many farmers to whom it is not necessary to address this language. They have their work done and well done. They do not depend upon luck to make crops. They put their own shoulders to the wheel, and the wheel has to move.

But there are some who will bear nudging constantly. Corn can be put in yet. Hungarian grass seed can be sown yet. Immense amounts of the best forage can be made from the sugar cane plant, sown in hills, in drills or broadcast. One acre of good sugar cane fodder will feed more stock than can be fed from five acres of ordinary Timothy. Carrots can be sown yet—on clean, mellow ground, in drills—to be thinned out to four inches and kept clean. The Manguel Wurtzel can yet be sown in drills, plants to be kept ten inches apart—the crop scarcely ever fails, and will sometimes produce 30 tons to the acre, and make the best food for milch cows. Ruta Baga seed can be sown at any time within the first half of this month; but in our *sometimes*, dry summers this crop fails.

 We learn that arrangements will be made to get up a Horticultural exhibition here in June, which will exceed in interest any which has preceded it. Ladies should now sow their annual flower seeds, for a full display. If they have not these on hand, they can find them at S. Francis seed store.

The Exodus from Pike's Peak.

Our's is a peculiarly excitable race.—The stories of adventurers, to Pike's Peak, and the false statements published in the border papers of gold having been found there, produced a mania among that class of our people who do not like the slow advancement made by prudence, economy and industry, in securing the means of living and wealth. A large number of this class of our people left their farms and workshops and other employments, gathered means for an outfit, and with the earliest spring weather, started for the supposed land of gold. Few of these adventurers were of a class to dig and delve, where small quantities of the shining dust would be obtained, and after a few days residence on Cherry Creek, they took up their packs and are now making their way, as best they can, to their abandoned homes, east of the Missouri River—where they will become wiser if not better men.

We do not regard the return of many "Pike's Peakers," as evidence that there is no gold in the region of country from whence they have returned. Many of the early emigrants to California returned in disgust, denouncing the stories of gold found there as false. After thousands shall have left the gold places near the base of the Rocky Mountains, we shall be disappointed if those who remain do not find gold, probably in paying quantities. The error has been in the rush to Pike's Peak, by men who had no conception of what would be required there for their support—food, money—until gold digging there could become a regular and safe business.—Had they been prudent and waited until the coming fall, all the facts in relation to the mineral wealth of the country, would have been ascertained, as well as the necessary provisions required for the subsistence of miners there. The movements of immense masses of population, are always attended with suffering, except in case of organized armies, which at vast expense, are provided with food and other necessities.

We shall expect the return of a great portion of the emigrants now at and in the neighborhood of Cherry Creek, or who are on their way there. Well, there is plenty of work for them here,

at home. To thousands their "plain and mountain excursion," will be useful. Others, who live on excitement, loafers, gamblers, and men who live by their wits, it is hoped, will continue their onward way until they arrive in some country where their merits will be appreciated.

Enormous Fruits and Vegetables in California.

We acknowledge the receipt of the "Report of the second Industrial exhibition of the Mechanics' Institute of the City of San Francisco, held at the pavilion of the Institute, in San Francisco from the 20th to the 26th September, 1858." This is a volume of 250 pages, and contains a list of the articles exhibited, proceedings of Judge, the annual address, &c. It is a work which does great credit to the Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco.

The Report furnishes ample evidence of the fertility of the soil of California, and the adaptation of the climate to the cereals, fruits and vegetables. The average crops of Wheat are stated to be forty bushels per acre, though crops of sixty, eighty and one hundred and ten bushels have been made. In San Jose Valley, a field of fifty acres has produced five crops of wheat with a single sowing, and the last crop yielded forty-three bushels per acre.

Fruits in California grow to a large size and in perfection. Grapes will yield 15,000 pounds to the acre—double the product of grapes in France. There was on exhibition a pear weighing four pounds; a bunch of grapes weighing fourteen pounds; a peach measuring twelve inches in circumference.—Strawberries have been exhibited measuring six and a half inches in circumference. The Gloria Mundi apple is frequently found to weigh two pounds three ounces.

The vegetables of California are equally wonderful in size, and still are excellent in quality. A beet has been exhibited weighing one hundred and twenty-five pounds; another was measured while in a growing state, and was found to be three feet and six inches in circumference; a potatoe weighing eight pounds; a field of potatoes yielding 700 bushels to the acre; a very compact cabbage weighing forty pounds; a turnip weighing fifty pounds; a sweet potatoe weighing upwards of twenty-three pounds;

a cornstalk measuring twenty-five feet in height; a pumpkin weighing two hundred and sixty-seven pounds; on one vine there grew four pumpkins weighing eight hundred pounds.

The Report laments that the agricultural resources of the country cannot be brought out for want of a steady and steady agricultural population. Few men engage in agriculture as a permanent employment. The agricultural resources of a country cannot be well developed with such a population.

Hungarian Grass.

But little of this grass (or Millet) was sown in this section of country until last year. Such was the demand for the seed last spring, that unscrupulous men put into market the seed of the common Italian Millet for the Hungarian. We are inclined to believe that in every case where there was dissatisfaction with the crop, it was where, the wrong variety of Millet had been sown. We have had the assurance of many farmers that the Hungarian Millet came up entirely to their expectations on the amount of crop produced and in its excellence of food for stock. Mr. A. E. Constant, a well known farmer of this county, and at present, a resident of this city, raised a small field of Hungarian Millet last year. He said his horses lived on it while it lasted last winter, and did quite as well as they would have done on the best oats, and he had as lief have the Hungarian Grass as oats for Stock.

Our farmers, who cultivated the crop last season—supposing that seed would be abundant the present spring—fed their seed out to stock; which is a great misfortune; for, such is the demand for seed this spring, that the great markets have been cleared of it. There was no seed for sale at Chicago a few days ago, and in small lots, at St. Louis; it has been readily sold at \$3 per bushel.

LARGE YIELD OF WOOL.—The imported Cotswold buck, owned by Mr. Martin Hutchinson, of Bourbon, was sheared on the 16th of April last, and produced 19½ pounds of dry wool. The same animal on the 19th of May, 1858, yielded 19 pounds of dry wool. This splendid animal was imported by a company in Springfield, Illinois, from whom Mr. Hutchison purchased him at a high price.

Cotton Growing in Central Illinois.

A gentleman of Mississippi has sent the editor of this paper, and B. F. Johnson, Esq., of Urbana, a package of cotton seed, for distribution among those who wish to make experiments in cotton growing in central Illinois. Mr. Johnson, in a communication to the editor of this paper, thus speaks of the prospect:

"I was gratified at last to get a sight of a specimen of that cotton seed. Send along that bag as soon as may be. I wish to plant a few rows, and will distribute the balance—or more properly, the remainder.

"I am not disposed to think there is any thing more than a chance—a slight one—that cotton can be profitably grown with us on the prairie; but the value of such a success would be incalculable. There are several facts that are worth remembering in this connection. It is true that cotton will grow in this latitude, but the season is too short. It cannot be profitably raised on account of our early frosts. Now, were we to go to Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia or South Carolina, and import our seed corn, at first we should be likely to fail of a crop; yet *Zea Mays* is profitably grown on the 45°, in New England, and the Ohio Dent corn ripens in the same parallel in Minnesota. The corn of South Carolina and that of Canada are one and the same thing, and though the Grasses are much wider spread than the *Malvacea*, still I don't see why care and cultivation cannot crowd the cotton growth and bloom into the four or five months of our season, as it has done the growth of corn in the three months of a northern summer. Corn in South Carolina is planted in March or April, and ripens in October, standing seven or eight months on the ground. Here it is planted in May and ripens in October, standing say five or six months on the ground. Can't the same adaptation to climate be done with cotton? And since the mean temperature on our prairies is several degrees higher than in latitude 30° or 35°, is there not a reasonable hope of success? What seems to be wanted is that experiments should be made and seed carefully selected so that in process of time a northern cotton could be grown as readily as a northern corn. The high price of labor here would at this time disable us from competing with the south, yet were we to succeed in raising cotton, there is enough mechanical skill, especially when stimulated by such a pressure to solve the problem of gathering cotton by machinery."

We may add that the castor bean plant came from the tropics, and is there a tree, continuing to produce for many years. It has been gradually taken to the north, until it has become an annual plant in Illinois, the seed being planted, and the plant producing perfect seed within the time that is required for maturing the corn crop. The habits of other tropical plants have been changed in the same manner. Cotton trees from which cotton is annually taken, are found in Yucatan.

We cannot say it is the same variety of our common cotton plant.

In regard, however, to the growing of cotton in central Illinois, we can give a few facts that we confess (learned a few days ago) surprised us. The late Reuben Hanison, with his family, were among the earliest settlers of Sangamon county. They came here in 1822, and settled on Richland Creek. The settlers of that day in that locality, were principally from the Carolinas, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee. They grew cotton successfully, and as a matter of necessity, for cotton cloths were not then to be obtained, as they are now. Each family had a cotton-patch; it ripened well, maturing the seeds. The cotton was gathered and placed in sheds for that purpose, until a convenient time for divesting it of its seeds. This was done by "ginning it." There were two cotton gins in the neighborhood—one on Richland and the other on Rock Creek. Our informant says that cotton was thus grown for many years, gathered, ginned, carded, spun and wove into cloth for several years—he thinks until about 1830. The seasons then apparently changed—became wetter and shorter than they had previously been. At all events, the crop failed several times—stores were established, where cotton domestics could be had, and the culture of the cotton crop ceased in Sangamon. We might remark here that corn failed also in 1830, and, we believe, to some extent in 1831. These seasons were wet, and continued to be wet and warm very late in the season—the corn keeping green and not maturing. In the spring of 1832 seed corn had to be brought from Kentucky and Tennessee, and sold at almost fabulous prices. Wheat flour was also brought in considerable quantities from Cincinnati to Beardstown, from whence it was hauled into the country on wagons.


The attempt to cultivate the cotton plant in our region is not without hope of success. It has been successfully cultivated here, and may be again. The first great curiosity we met with in this State, was in 1829, when we saw a lady on the "Turkey Hill Farm," in St. Clair county, gathering cotton from the plants. She said "the cotton was fine, as good as they raised in Carolina, and all she wanted was a gin to gin it."


A notorious Miss of the pave tripped into the Police Office yesterday—(if she could trip with her extensions at least fifteen feet in circumference), and very modestly remarked that "she did not like to be there but supposed she must be." She was charged with keeping a cage of cyprians. Her case was put off.


Ornamental Trees.

We occasionally notice the planting out in the gardens and streets, Sugar Maples taken from the woods.—These sugar maples are of stunted growth and require to be planted a long time, in the open air, before they become acclimated to the exposure; and, after that, it will be many years before they become handsome trees, if ever. Now, if our citizens want beautiful, quick-growing maples—that will make handsome shade in three years—they should obtain silver maples from the nurseries. These can be had from ten to fifty cents—depending on size, and they are beautiful and perfectly reliable trees. No handsomer, deciduous tree can be planted in the town.

EARLY RISING.—What deep delights, what chances, perhaps of heaven itself, we sluggards lose! To be awake and out in summer morn at dawn, is to be first in a new Eden garden, alone with the God of old! what a privilege! (our Eve has been left asleep in the four-poster, and the serpent himself keeps no such early hours.) It seems to be the very first dawn that ever was, and all the villainy of the world to have clean vanished—along with the evil dreams and phantom fears of the night time—or never to have existed at all. "Let there be light," has just left the Divine lips, and, lo! a noontide without oppression, an indescribable mid-day coolness, or, it may be, summer rain, soft falling, gracious, like a sensible blessing, upon the heart and stretched-out hands. "The lark can scarce shake out the notes, for joy," of his matin hymn; the nightingale repeats "perchance the self-same song that found a path through the sad heart of Ruth, when sick for home she stood in tears amid the alien corn;" and loud, and long, and lovingly she lingers over it.

 The Macoupin county Fair will commence on the 13th September, and continue four days, the week after the State Fair. The premium list is a rich one, extends to all classes of stock, all the productions of the farm &c.

 Potatoes are coming from the North for consumption, and seed.—Won't our farmers, the present season, try to raise enough for country consumption?

 The prospect of European War, should stimulate our farmers to raise heavy crops this season.

Potatoes.

Potatoes for early crops have been planted. They are looking well.—There is time yet to plant for the late crop. New ground is best. They delight in high ridges. It is well to plant pure seed. The crop always looks better and brings better prices in market, if of one variety. Boston Blues, White Neshannocks, Pink Eyes, and Irish Greys, are approved varieties. There is no better potatoe, however, in our opinion, than the White Mexican.

WHY WON'T PEOPLE LEARN.—Thousands of pine trees from Michigan, have been purchased by our people this spring, which were dead when they were purchased, and the purchasers, besides paying their money for these trees, have exhibited their folly in planting them out. This folly has to be regularly acted over every spring. If you want good evergreen trees, they should be purchased of nurserymen, taken up in good order and their roots kept moist until planted out.

HOW TO RAISE SQUASH, MELON AND CUCUMBER PLANTS.—The striped bug is very destructive on these plants at this time. Gardeners are losing their plants. How can the evil be remedied.

I will give you the result of one single attempt at the destruction of these insects. They had destroyed all the young plants in my garden, but three hills of squashes. I gathered a handful of green growing onions. I cut them up in small pieces, put them into a vessel, with half a bucket of water. They thus remained until the water was very offensive, (which it will be in a few hours.) I then wet the leaves of the plants, on the upper as well as on the under side of them. The next morning I found a very few bugs on them. I repeated the operation, and have seen none of the bugs since.

I have thus given my experience. The process may not succeed in other cases in ridding vines of these noxious insects. It has with me.

Springfield, May, 1859.

F. S.

BIG BOSTON.—Wm. H. Hartley is now standing in Jacksonville, Big Boston, a celebrated horse, half brother of Lexington and Lecompte. We have received from Joseph Morton, Esq., a pamphlet containing the lineage of this horse, his performances and those of the stock nearest related to him. He is among the best horses in America. Mr. Hartley will have nothing to do

with a poor horse. Mr. Hartley has been instrumental in giving to Morgan county a stock of horses, the superior of which can scarcely be found any where.

"Hints to Horse Keepers—A Complete Manual for Horsemen; embracing, How to breed a Horse; How to buy a Horse; How to break a Horse; How to use a Horse; How to feed a horse; How to physic a Horse (allopathy and homeopathy); How to groom a horse, How to drive a horse; How to ride a horse; and chapters on Mules and Ponies—By the late Wm. Henry Herbert, (Frank Forester;) with additions, including "Barey's Method of Horse Training," and "Bauchers system of Horseman-ship;" also giving directions for the retention and care of carriages and harness of every description, and a memoir of the author. Beautifully illustrated. New York printed—A. O. Moore and Company, No. 140 Fulton street, 1859."

We have just received a handsome volume of 426 pages, with the above title. On examination, as far as we are able to judge, the contents fully fill the expectations formed from a reading of the title page. This work ought to be in the hands of every man who is responsible for the breeding, purchase and management of horses.

How much good would result to community if books, of the character now before us, were used for premiums at our Agricultural Fairs?

SWEET POTATOES.—The early yellow Nansemond is becoming the popular sweet potatoe for the north. It grows to a good size, can be planted late, and is good for eating as soon as the tubers are large enough, and, besides, it is a sweet and dry fleshed variety. Good dry corn land suits the Nansemond potatoe. It should be clean, pulverized deep and well thrown into ridges, and the plants put in so that the hills shall be about three feet apart; cultivate well; always keep down the weeds.

The plants are selling in this city at very low prices.

GARDENS.—These should not now be neglected. Many seeds of vegetables can yet be planted. Peas produce well if planted to the depth of five or six inches. Sweet corn will still mature, if planted now, for roasting ears. Beans, beets, carrots, radishes, &c., will do well if the seed is planted now; and so will most vegetables. That farmer who has a good garden will find that he saves many doctor's bills.

CORN.—Some of the best crops of corn which grew last season, were planted on the 15th of June. Any of the early varieties will mature if planted by that time. Red blaze, Smith's early white, King Phillip, and yellow eight rowed flint, will make early crops for feeding out to hogs, if planted the middle of the present month.

WINTER SQUASHES.—These are among many of our best vegetables in their season. If kept in a cool dry place from frost, they will keep till February—many still longer.

Stumps.

We occasionally see a fine piece of of land covered with stumps—marring its appearance and rendering its cultivation with the plow very difficult. A writer in the *Iowa Farmer*, thus details a plan by which they can be got rid of:—

Provide yourself a pole, or lever, 25 feet long, and about four inches in diameter at the smaller end, and about ten or twelve at the larger end. Then get a good strong chain, (I used a very heavy logging chain, with a ring on each end,) a wedge and beetle, and you have everything necessary.

The manner of operating is this:—Hitch a yoke of cattle to the smaller end of the pole or lever, and drive up to the stump to be extracted; haul the pole in such a manner as to leave about three feet of the larger end past the stump.—Then take your chain, and fasten it to the pole, by throwing the chain around the pole, and running one end of the chain through the ring on the other end. Then fasten the chain to the stump, by passing it several times around it, and fasten the end by driving the wedge through the ring into the stump. Now make your cattle haul in the direction to tighten the chain around the stump, and by continuing in this direction, the stump will be twisted out of the ground.

If the stump is large, or if sound and growing, it may perhaps be necessary to dig, and cut one or two of the main roots, but this is seldom the case. The amount of power required to pull a stump in this way is very small, on account of the leverage the cattle have. Indeed, in pulling a common stump, they seem to have less to do, than when pulling the pole from one stump to another. MOSES. —*Elliot, Minn.*

—A dose of Electric Oil was administered to a man of the name of Nash in this city a few nights since, which rendered him very quiet for a time.

—J. H. Palma, an old resident of this city, and for many years a Mormon Bishop, died at his residence near Sangamon River, on Sunday evening.

—It seems to be understood that the Chicago and Mississippi Road will remain in the hands of Gov. Matteson for the present. The bond-holders won't take the road and pay the laborers. So it is said.

—A steam machine for pulverizing the earth has been invented at Cincinnati. It is said to do the work better than can be done by any plow.

"Horse Thief Detector."

EDITOR ILLINOIS FARMER:

I find in your April number of the "Illinois Farmer," that a Mr. John H. Hosford has written a line in favor of a plan to detect horse thieves, and to recover stolen property, similar to one proposed by me some time ago. I am glad to see this matter again before the public, and hope that Mr. J. H. Hosford and others will continue to write, and that the press and the farmers will continue to talk and act on this grievous evil, until we can get a paper started to advertise all stolen property, similar to a counterfeit detector.

Say let a paper be published twice a week in Springfield, to be called the "Horse Thief Detector." Let a prospectus be published, and any and all that wish to subscribe, do so. Horse and vigilant companies could subscribe—say five numbers for each company; all sheriffs and constables ought to have a copy; and when any man had a horse stolen, he could for a dollar have his stolen property advertised, and spread over the State to Sheriffs and horse companies, much sooner than he possibly could go to a printing office and get bills printed and circulated, and with one-hundredth the cost. Then there would be another great advantage about this detector. When a stranger proposed to sell or trade a horse, with your detector you could at once see if he was stolen.

Yours, P. SIMMONS.

THE INSTINCT OF TOADS.—A curious anecdote of the instinct of locality has come to us from a highly voracious quarter. In the town of Franklin, in Venango county, once lived a gentleman who was fond of bees. One morning he observed four toads sitting just below the hive. The next day the same toads were there, grave and solemn as sphynxes before an Egyptian temple. One was black; another bright colored; a third blind; a fourth marked in some other distinguished way. Thinking they annoyed the bees, and seeing they pertinaciously preserved their position, day after day, he put them into a basket, carried them across the Alleghany, and left them at the top of a hill.—What was his surprise three weeks after, to find them at their old post, as grave and solemn as ever! Again he removed them, taking them this time, in a different direction; leaving them at a point much further off. In about six weeks, however, they were back for the second time. A neighbor, to whom the incident was told, and who was incredulous, next tried to lose them. But in a few weeks the toads were seen, one morning, entering the garden, under the leadership of one of their number, who gave a "cheep, cheep," looked back for his suite, and then hopped on, followed by the rest, until he reached his old station under the bee hive, where he gravely took up his old quarters.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

Corn.

The past month has been a busy one with farmers. There was a good deal of wet weather in the Central parts of Illinois, and but little low land was planted in corn. The uplands are planted and the corn looks well. The flat lands will yet be planted. We ought to recollect that much of our last year's crop of corn was planted in June, and most of it ripened well.

The early varieties—white flint, yellow flint, red blaze and King Phillip will ripen well planted in the middle of June.

HUNGARIAN GRASS SEED is now a scarce article. It cannot be had in Chicago or St. Louis at any price. Many of our farmers were so improvident the past winter as to feed out this seed to their stock. Farmers! see to it that you provide food for your stock next winter.

GAS TAR FOR THE PEACH-BORER.—A correspondent of the *American Farmer* writes that he has found gas tar a preventative of the ravages of the peach borer. He had previously tried lime, ashes soot, sulphur, tobacco stalks, and almost every remedy recommended; finally, knowing that the borer deposits its egg at various times, from June to October, in the bark of the tree, near the surface of the ground, he cleared away the earth from the body and roots of the tree, to the depth of a few inches, and as soon the bark was dried sufficiently, it was rubbed with a corn cob until it was smooth. The gas tar was then applied with a paint brush, as low down as the excavation would allow, and for some three or four inches above the surface of the ground. The earth was filled into the holes again, and it was found, the next season, that the trees were perfectly healthy and uninjured by the worm or tar. Four trees were thus treated in 1855—in 1856 all the peach, apricot and plum trees planted; and of these, the borer was only found in two peach trees, in 1858. Gas tar is naturally very drying, and should be applied with caution. In this case it seemed to have been efficient, and not to have been injurious. Still, we think, in the case of young trees especially, a safe operation would be, after digging the earth from the stem, to place a ring of strong brown paper around the tree, and smear it with the tar.

Princess Clotilde is said to have been the purchaser of the celebrated fan belonging to the late Queen of Oude. The fan is of white silk, richly embroidered in emeralds and seed pearl; the handle of gold and ivory, splendidly adorned with rubies and seventeen large brilliants of the first water.

The announcement, some time since, that Messrs. Searle and Tuttle had been decreed prizes by the Imperial Institute of France for astronomical discoveries, has been confirmed by letters from Beaumont, Secretary Perpetual of that learned body. These gentlemen are the first Americans who have been awarded the astronomical prizes.

For the Illinois Farmer.
Insects, No. 2.

MURPHYSBORO, Jackson Co., Ill., May 23, 1859.

Mr. Editor:—The errors in my former communication as published are too numerous to attempt correction, therefore I will let them pass, hoping this may share a better fate.

I will still confine my remarks to the *Locustidae*, but before leaving the genus *Tetrix*, I must state that the specimens I allude to as being distinct from *T. parvipennis*, are the females of *T. lateralis*.

The species of this family probably most common are those belonging to the genus *Locusta*, Leach (*Oedipoda*, *Latr.*) which may be distinguished from the other very common genus *Acridium* thus. The former has the wings longer in proportion to the body, the throat, prosternum smooth, while in the latter it is furnished with a point or process rising up just in front of the anterior legs.

It is to the genus *Locusta* the celebrated locusts of the East belong, hence we may infer the destructive qualities of their congeners.

L. viridifasciata. This is one of our earliest species, often appearing as early as the last of March. It is easily distinguished by its beautiful green color, which prevails almost over the whole insect. The wing covers being marked along their upper half by a semi-transparent stripe. Wings transparent, pale greenish yellow next their insertion and dusky toward the tips. Thorax keeled above, keel continuous. Antennae and fore legs reddish, and often the underside of the head and breast is reddish. Length to the end of the wing-covers one inch and a quarter.

When young the crested thorax is an important feature in their appearance, causing them to look clumsy notwithstanding their agility in leaping.

They delight in spots of young and tender grass, which seems to be their principal food. Their number is considerable and their growth rapid, consequently they must destroy a large amount of vegetable matter, and that of the most valuable kind.

Dr. Harris has united this and some other species into a sub-genus to which he has given the name.

Tragocephala, or great headed locusts, on account of their heavy antennae and oblique faces.

L. Carolina. Is another very common species, long since named and described by Linnaeus himself (*Syst. natur.*) figured by Stoll (*Sauterell*, pl. XVIII, fig. 63.) Body a brownish-yellow or rather muddy color. Head same color. Dorsal keel prominent, sharp, cut across by a transverse impression. Elytra or

wing-covers much longer than the body clear near the extremity, ashy brown marked with dark irregular obscure spots. Wings ample, black except a broad yellow border. Length male 1 inch, female $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch, to the end of the body.

These prefer road-sides, stubble-fields and spots where the grass and weeds are not too rank and high, but somewhat bare. They may frequently be seen dancing on the wing in the hot sunshine a short distance from the ground.

I do not think this species is very injurious to useful vegetation, unless it be in the larvae and pupa state.

These like all others of this family are hatched in the ground, and appear to come leaping from the egg, being nothing but head and legs when first hatched, and are as active then as when grown, in proportion to their size.

I think they are hatched out during the night or early in the morning.

And I also think they feed much during the night, in all stages of their growth, for as soon as dusk comes, and after sunset you may see them taking their position on the leaves of various plants. This will also account in part for our seeing so many plants with their leaves partly eaten, yet so seldom see anything at work at them.

Another early species is the—

L. infusca. A smaller species than either of the foregoing, and belonging to Dr. Harris' sub-genus *Tragocephala*. Dusky brown; thorax keeled; wing-covers anteriorly tinged with brown, posterior part dusky and spotted; wings transparent, pale watery yellow next the body, dusky on the outer portion; posterior thighs rufous, with two large black spots on the inside; posterior tibiae or shanks rufous with a lighter ring below the knees. Length of male three fourths of an inch.

The males of this species are very noisy, leaping often, and accompanying each leap with a rapid succession of crackling sounds, caused (as in all other species of this family) by rubbing the posterior thighs against the wing-covers. This species comes early and continues long, being less choice as to its habitation than any other of the genus. Yet I do think it is a very destructive species, because although generally distributed it is not very numerous.

Acridium Americanum. This is our largest and most showy grasshopper, the female measuring to the end of the wing covers $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and to the end of the body $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches; the male only measuring $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches to the tip of the wing-covers, and $1\frac{3}{4}$ to the end of the body. General color yellowish. Head and thorax marked with a yellow stripe along the centre (sometimes wanting in the males), thorax not crested, on each side

of the yellow stripe, on the upper side of the thorax is a broad stripe of dark brown; the latter perpendicular portions of the thorax on each side marked with two oblong dark brown spots. Wing-covers marked with a light stripe along the upper edge, the sides at their anterior part with dark and light stripes, while the posterior parts are transparent and marked with equal dusky spots.

Of this species we have two varieties which seem to be quite distinct, one which comes in the fore part of the season is lighter than the other, and the males less distinctly marked, and the entire coloring in both sexes except the dusky spots, is much lighter and without a reddish tinge. While the other variety makes its appearance about the first of August, is of a much deeper color having a reddish tinge prevailing every part sometimes reaching even a vermillion.

The best prevention of the increase of these insects, as I have suggested in another place, is the increase of domestic fowls, which, although troublesome to the gardener, yet destroy a vast number of grasshoppers. Birds should also be protected, as they are the farmer's friends, and he should not envy them the little corn, wheat or fruit they occasionally consume, for they will repay it with interest.

I think it is all a notion that spiders ever live on vegetable juice, except the injury their nets may do, tender leaves and flowers, I think they do no injury but much good by destroying vast numbers of insects, especially flies.

Clean culture cannot too often be urged upon the farmer; clean the fence rows, take out the stumps, burn the logs and better burn the straw that remains at the opening of Spring. Thus they will be able to keep down vast numbers of these pests with which they are so frequently overrun.

C. THOMAS.

☞ A good name is above all price. Have you not found it so, young man; you whose well known virtues have placed you in a position which you occupy with feelings of commendable pride? And you whose fame has been the target of envious tongues, have you not seen a good name to be the only breastplate that is impervious to the poison shafts of calumny? Gold and talent, what are these without a character? A light to render darkness visible; a gilding, which, by contrast, makes the substance more revolting! Cherish it, then, all ye who possess it; guard it carefully; for depend upon this, its purity once tarnished, the most unwearied effort will hardly restore it to its prime lustre. Let it attend you through the journey of life, crowning your days with peace and happiness. The rectitude which won it, will engrave it upon your face a recommendation to people of every nation and tongue; and when the treasure is no longer needful to you it shall descend to your posterity, a legacy with which millions on millions would not bear to be compared.

COMMERCIAL.

Springfield Market--May 30.

WHEAT--\$1 15@1 35 bu; FLOUR--\$7@8 50 bu; CORN--85c bu; scarce; CORN MEAL--\$1 20 bu; OATS--60c bu; none; BEANS--75c@1 00 bu; BRAN--15c bu; SHORTS--25c bu; TIMOTHY SEED--\$2 1/2 bu; HUNGARIAN Gr Sd--\$5 MILLET--\$1; CLOVER--\$8@9 bu; POTATOES--80@1; HAY--\$16 ton; TALLOW--9c lb; SOAP--bar, 6 1/2 lb; CANDLES--12 1/2 lb box; PICKLED PORK--\$8 1/2 100 lbs; BACON--hams 10 1/2 lb;

BACON--sides 9c lb; EGGS--8c@10c doz; LARD--10c@11c lb; SUGAR--8c@10 lb; COFFEE--13c@15c lb; MOLASSES--45c@60c gal; SALT--\$1 75 8c; ALT--\$2 50 lb; MACKEREL--13c@20c No 1; CODFISH--\$5 75 100 lbs; APPLES--dried, \$2 25 bu; WOOD--\$3 50 50 cord; COAL--12c lb; WHISKY--30c@35c gal; VINEGAR--12c gal; BROOMS--\$1 50@2 50 doz; BUTTER--20c lb; HIDES--Dry, 1c; HIDES--Green, 6 1/2c;

New York Cattle Market--May 25.

BEEVES--The supply has decreased 932 head, causing more competition among buyers, and thus advancing prices half a cent per lb. The quality was better than any average in a long time; many whole droves were very superior, and 12@12 1/2c per lb was frequently paid for the best selections of ordinary. Premium sold as high as 13@13 1/2c, and the average of all sales was equal to 11c per lb. At Allerton's 2413 head were yarded from the following states: New York 693, Pennsylvania 74, Ohio 258, Illinois 660, Kentucky 216, Iowa 423, Connecticut 4, Canada 12, and Michigan 74. The Erie Railroad brought 360 head, Hudson 1822, Harlem 8 Camden & Amboy 74, Boats 144. On Tuesday, over 1000 head were sold at Allerton's at the improvement quoted, and to-day (Wednesday) the sales were rather quick at full rates to the close.

The following droves from Illinois were at this market.

Win. H. Harris 52; W. W. Palmer 30, L. Talbot 70; A. Gillespie 45; Shuester & Seigle 18; B. & H. Westheimer 71; S. G. Woodruff 15; Vail & Clark 129; Alexander & Caswell 77; Alexander & Pitch 50; J. T. Alexander 217; Major Smith 15;

QUOTATIONS.

The following are the prices at which stock was sold:

BEEF CATTLE.

Prem. quality, per cwt.....	\$12 50@13 50
Prime do do	11 50@12 00
Ordinary do do	10 50@11 00
Common do do	10 00@10 25
Inferior do do	9 00@9 75

MILCH COWS--Milkmen are almost entirely out of market, and the supply though small is more than ample for the demand. Prices are declining. We quote from \$20@65, as to quality.

Best quality.....per head.....	\$50 00@65 00
Good qualities.....do	40 00@45 00
Fair qualities.....do	30 00@35 00
Common qualities.....do	20 00@25 00

VEALS--Are quite dull and declining, the quality continues largely composed of young Calves. The sales are made chiefly at 4 1/2@5 1/2c.

Prime quality, per lb.....	5 1/2@6 1/2c.
Ordinary, per lb.....	3 1/2@4 1/2c.

SHEEP AND LAMBS--The market is 50@75c per head lower, owing to a good supply and a decreased consumption during the warm weather. Carcass mutton is selling at 8@10c, and for extra 11@12c per lb; live weight range from 4c to 6c, and on foot from \$3 to \$7, 50 per head. Lambs command \$2 50@5. Sales by Thos. C. Larkin of 573 head for \$2,410 74; by R. H. Hume, 291 for \$1,328 62; by McCarthy, 1916 for \$345 for Lambs, and \$3 50@7 50 for Sheep, O'Brien's complete report was not obtainable.

Prime quality, per head (extra).....	\$6 50@7 50
Ordinary, per head.....	5 00@6 00
Inferior, per head.....	2 25@4 50

SWINE--We notice a more active business and rather better prices. A lot of still-fed, average weight 220 lbs, sold for \$6.65 per 100 lbs. Corn-fed have sold at 6 1/2@7c, gross. At the Western yards 13,921 head sold viz: 2452 by Hudson road, 14 9 do by Erie do. The Receipts at Hudson River yards were 1927 head.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

	Beef Cattle,	Milch Cows,	Veal, Calves,	Sheep and Lambs,	Swine.
This week.....	2032	155	1150	5822	5854
Last week.....	3564	221	1420	5287	6772
Increase.....	.....	.....	.....	533	.....
Decrease.....	932	76	270	.....	578

At Bergen, N. J., 100 head were sold to butchers for this market.

St. Louis Market--May 28, p. m.

Although the latest news from the British Breadstuffs markets has been rather favorable, yet no improvement has taken place in New York and other of our domestic markets. In fact, the reverse has been the case, and our market is now as dull or duller than before the flurry. We quote as follows:

FLOUR--Sales of 100 bags country superfine at \$3.15; 75 city do at \$3.25; 100 bbls extra at \$7.50, and 50 bbls double do at \$8.

WHEAT--To-day there was an increased firmness, and reported sales embraced 6,050 sks as follows: 2,655 sks club and spring at from \$1.10@1.30; 2124 sks 18 bbls tall at from \$1.25@1.38; 517 sks at do \$1.40@1.43; 119 sks musty fall at \$1.18; 215 sks prime at \$1.50; and 356 sks prime red and white at \$1 50@1.55.

CORN--Market firmer; sales of 211 sks damaged at 65@60c; 1,550 sks mixed and yellow at 75@78c; 190 sks mixed at 80 1/2c;

850 sks white and yellow at 82@83c; 120 sks mixed white and yellow at 84@85c; 150 sks white, delivered, at 85c, and 4,200 sks private.

OATS--Sales of 725 sks fair at 60c; 356 sks good at 62c, and 6 sks prime at 65c bushel.

BARLEY AND RYE--No sales of either, and prices nominal.

WHISKY--Sales of 131 bbls at 26c.

POTATOES--The market has been steady and quiet; sales have embraced 1200 to 1500 bags, and 200 to 300 bbls at from 60@80c for mixed, according to quality and size of lot, from 87 1/2@1 1/2 bu for pinkies and neshannocks, and \$3@3.10 bbl for New York mercers.

HIDES--Sales of Flint on Thursday and yesterday at 17c, but to-day the market showed an upward tendency, and sales were at 17@17 1/2c. We quote green salted at 7 1/2@8c lb.

HAY--For good and prime there has been a better demand but poor continues dull. Sales on Thursday of 122 bales at 75, 80 and 85c; yesterday 24 bales common at 60c; and to-day 30 bales common at 50c, and 26 bales prime at 90c 100 lbs

Chicago Market--May 28 p. m.

There has been another quiet day in the wheat market. Throughout the entire day the European steamers have been expected, and there was but little disposition to operate in consequence. Holders generally withdrew their stocks from the market; but those who sold had to submit to a decline of 2@3c on Winter and 1@2c on Spring grades. Only about 30,000 bushels, however, changed hands at the following range: No. 1 Red, \$1.50 to 1.52; Standard Spring, \$1.10 to 1.12 1/2; No. 2 Spring \$1.00 to 1.02, and rejected at 85 to 88c--all in store. In the afternoon there were no sellers of No. 1 Red at the ruling figures on 'Change, and it was earnestly believed among dealers that the sales at \$1 50 were not genuine. They were reported, however, by reliable and responsible parties.

Flour continues dull and drooping. Corn was a shade lower to-day, but the transactions were limited to about 15,000 bushels at 76c f. o. b. for choice canal; 71 1/2 to 72c for No. 1 in store, and 66 to 67c for No. 2 western. Oats were active, but lower. About 9,000 bushels were sold at 48 to 48 1/2c for No. 1 in store, and 40c for rejected. Barley also declined 2 to 3c. Highwines neglected. Hides firm. Potatoes in good request at better prices.

St Louis Live Stock Market--May 28.

BEEF CATTLE--Have been more plenty this week, and the market has experienced a decline of fully 1 1/2c lb. Sales were made from 7@9 1/2c net, as to quality and quantity. Butchers are paying as follows: For good to choice qualities 9@10 1/2c net; ordinary to fair do 7@8 1/2c net; inferior and common 2 1/2@3 1/2c gross. A large number of Indian Cattle were sold from 2 1/4@3c gross.

HOGS--The market varied but very little from last week, either in demand or prices. Butchers pay for good heavy Hogs 6@7c net. Shippers are paying 4 1/2@5 1/2c. A fair supply left unsold.

SHEEP--Have been in good supply for the past week, with rather a dull market, at prices varying from \$2@3 per head for sheared sheep.

COWS AND CALVES--A fair supply on the market with a moderate demand for good Cows at \$3@4 1/2 per head. Common dull at \$1.50@2.

New Orleans Cattle Market--May 14, p. m.

BEEF CATTLE--The supply of good Western beefs was very limited, and we heard of no sales. The stock of Texas cattle is ample at \$13@25 to \$38 per head.

HOGS--A good stock. We quote at 6@6 1/2c and 7c per lb net.

SHEEP--An ample supply at \$2@4.50 per head.

MILCH COWS--At \$30@80 per head.

VEAL CATTLE--At \$6@11.50 per head. A good supply.



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Woodburn Farm adjoins Spring Station Depot, on the Lexington and Frankfort Railroad, being 15 miles from the former, and 10 miles from the latter place.

Catalogues will be ready one month previous to the sale, and may be had on application to R. A. ALEXANDER, or S. W. JOHNSON, Spring Station, Woodford County, Kentucky, may 1 2t

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A LARGE LOT DIRECT FROM THE potteries in England, to be sold at very low prices by aug S. FRANCIS.

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SEEDS OF THE FAMOUS JAPAN Apple pie melon at 39 cents per doz., by W. H. Gardner, Sublette, Lee Co., Illinois. farm mchl

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"CANADA CLUB," "SCOTCH FIFE," "DUNDEE," &c. Hellwell, Brother, Milwaukee, Wis., and B. F. Pixley & Co., Janesville, have received from Canada West a supply of these Spring Wheats for seed. It is well known that the change of seed produces a large increase of the crop. Applications for this seed can be made at S. FRANCIS Seed Store, Springfield, who will send orders to meet the wishes of farmers.

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THOROUGHLY REVISED, Embracing all the new and valuable Fruits, with the latest improvements in their cultivation, up to January, 1859, especially adapted to the wants of WESTERN FRUIT GROWERS.

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Orders promptly filled and forwarded.

May 1st, 1857.

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CATALOGUE

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FOR SALE BY S. FRANCIS,
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Asparagus, Artichoke.
BEANS, FOR SNAPS—Valentine, Early Newington, Thousand to One, Early Mohawk, Early China, White Cranberry Bunch, Royal White Bunch.
BEANS, POLE—London Horticultural Cranberry, Siva, Lima, Red Cranberry, Indian Chief.
CABBAGE—Early Wakefield, Early York, Red Dutch, Early Sugar Leaf, Premium Flat Dutch, Large American Drumhead, Drumhead and Kohl Rabi.
CAULIFLOWER—Early London.
CORN—Early Red Cob Sweet Mammoth Sweet, Early Tuscarora, &c., Smith's Early White.
BEETS—Early Bassano, Early Blood Turnip, Long Blood Red, Mangel Wurtzel, &c., English Sugar Beet, &c., White Sugar.
CUCUMBERS—Short Green Early, Long London, Long Turkey, Gherkin, &c.
CELERY—Solid white, chrysal white, solid red.
CRESS—Curled double, broad leaf.
CARROTT—Common yellow, early horn, blood red, Belgium yellow.
EGG PLANT—Early long purple.
KALE—Sea kale.
LETTUCE—Ice" coss, early Silesia, green drumhead, &c., early white.
MELON—(Cantalope), pine apple, nutmeg, beach wood, green citron, large yellow cantaloupe.
WATER MELON—Mountain sprout, mountain sweet, Long Island, ice cream, black Spanish, citron melons Nasturtium, Okra, short and long green.
ONION—Large Wetherfield red, early red, Danver's yellow, yellow silver skin, white Portugal.
PEPPER—Large bull nose, large squash, Spanish, cherry, small cayenne.
PEAS—Early Comstocks dwarf, Bishop's long pod, champion of England, dwarf Prussian, large maorwlat, Prince Albert.
PUMPKIN—Large yellowfield, parsnip, long sweet.
PARSLEY—Double curled, Myatt's garnishing.
RHUBARB—Mitchell's early, Myatt's Victoria, Spinach.
SQUASHES (winter.)—Autumnal marrow, winter crookneck, Lima cocoonut, Hubbard's winter.
SQUASHES (summer.)—Early crookneck bush, early yellow bush.
TURNIP—Flat Dutch, early six weeks and various varieties.
TOMATO—Varieties.
TOMATO—Large red, red cherry, yellow.
SAGE—Common red.
RADISH—Early red turnip, early long red short top, long, salmon, black Spanish, Solifly (white), scorzonera.
Seeds of various garden herbs.
FLOWER SEEDS—in great variety—embracing a hundred sorts.
CHINESE SUGAR CANE SEEDS—and various other seeds for garden and field usually found at Seed Store.

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We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

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Sangamon county, Jan 17, 1855.
From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by JOHN UHLER, Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

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Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Dere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style,

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

Or Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adopted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do anykinds of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention

Sept., 1858—5 times.

JOHN DEERE.

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A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Conell, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 1855.

Sweet Potat Plants.

WE WILL HAVE THEM IN THE PRO- per season, for sale by the hundred or thousand, at fair prices; (See advertisement of early Nansmond potatoes) feb1 S. FRANCIS.

EVERGREENS.

ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S. Francis for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitae, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

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Orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubby to be had from any Nursery in this State. The article will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries.

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S. FRANCIS.

*"Lettres Edifiantes et Curieuses." Tome VII.

sus of 1840, rice was included among the agricultural productions of Illinois. We find by the census of 1850, that a considerable quantity was raised in Buchanan county, Missouri, which is in the same latitude as Sangamon, Illinois.

A small patch was successfully cultivated the present year, by a friend of mine, in Bluffdale. The seed was obtained from D. B. Tuthill, Esq., of Walbridge, Pulaski county, a gentleman whose enterprise and moral worth do honor to our State. No more seed was procured than was contained in a letter of an ounce weight; for it was the object of my friend merely to test its successful growth in this county, the present year, and raise seed for the next. The letter containing the rice failed to reach him till about two weeks later than it should have been planted, yet it ripened in good season, and yielded abundantly. I saw it frequently, in every stage of its growth, and can attest that the experiment was decidedly successful.

With proper attention, any farmer in Illinois can raise enough for the use of his own family, and that, too, with a trifling amount of labor. Like every other plant of the Natural Order of Graminæ, rice has a strong propensity to adapt itself to the climate where it is attempted to be raised. It is probable that in the most northern counties of this State but a small proportion of the first year's planting would fully ripen, if the seed came from a latitude far south. But by planting that which matured, it would adapt itself to the season. Every farmer is familiar with the fact that Indian corn, of whatever variety, soon becomes acclimated. The small dwarf corn, raised in the most northerly regions of the Canadas, in three years attains at the South, the height of the ordinary corn of that region, and requires as long a season to arrive at maturity. As much corn to the acre, on an average, is raised in North America in the latitude of Quebec, as at the equator. At the north, nature economizes the short season allowed her, by expending as little as possible of her energies upon a useless redundancy of stalk, but devotes them to perfecting the grain. The same law is manifest in the production of rice. As we advance toward a higher latitude, the height of the culm diminishes, without sensibly decreasing the yield of grain. There is a limit beyond which rice, like all other vegetable productions, cannot be successfully grown; yet it is believed, that if due attention is paid, that limit will not be found in Illinois. A little more than a century ago, when a Frenchman brought to Louisiana from St. Domingo, a few cuttings of the sugar cane, and planted them in

his garden, over which the commercial street of Tchepitoulas, New Orleans, now runs, it was regarded as a vegetable curiosity, without the slightest anticipation that a day *would* or ever *could* arrive, when the cane of the tropics would be naturalized in Louisiana, and sugar became the great staple production of that region. This plant, for many years has gradually, by the law of acclimation, been extending its culture farther and farther north, and it is difficult to say at what point nature would have pronounced her fiat, "*thus far shalt thou go, and no farther*," had not the *Sorgho sucre* stepped into the arena, and presented our farmers with a valuable substitute.

It is not pretended that even upland rice does not require a good share of moisture.—This is also true of all plants of the same Natural Order. Hardly a summer passes in Illinois in which there are not times when from the long absence of rain the corn crop would be sensibly benefitted by artificial irrigation. The saying that "*rice is fond of wet feet*," is applicable, in a greater or less degree, to every variety of the plant. But, no farm in this State can be so destitute of water, that a few square rods of rice cannot, with a trifling amount of labor, be irrigated when irrigation is needful.

The quantity of seed required is comparatively small, for numerous stalks spread out from a single grain, and it should be planted in drills at a sufficient distance from each other to permit the use of a hoe.

The average yield to the acre, in the United States, ascertained by actual enquiry in taking the last census, is much greater than the average yield of wheat. From the sixteenth of an acre, if cultivated with the care that may easily be bestowed upon so small a piece of ground, it is believed that from fifty to eighty pounds of rough rice can safely be expected. This computation is a very moderate one, and below the average yield. It should be planted as early in the Spring as the season will admit of sowing tobacco seed, which in this State is usually in March, or early in April.

It may be offered as an objection to its cultivation that rice, like barley, is covered with a hard *glume* or hull, of which it must be divested before it can be used for human food, and that the machine by which the large rice planters perform the operation of *hulling*, is costly. The rice-mill has indeed done for that crop what Whitney's invention has done for that of cotton. In 1840 there were eighty million pounds of rice raised in the United States. In 1850, only ten years later, that crop had risen to two hundred and fifteen millions of pounds. At the latter

date, there were no less than one hundred and seventy five thousand acres cultivated, and five hundred and fifty-one planters who raised each twenty thousand pounds or upwards. But, long before the rice-mill was invented, rice was raised in the United States for exportation. It was cleaned of the *glume* by pounding it, by hand, in large wooden mortars, similar to those which our early settlers employed to beat their corn into hominy. No one can have traveled extensively in our southern and south-western States without having frequently noticed particles of rice cultivated solely for the use of the family. It is raised for the same purpose in not a few of the counties of Kentucky. It is believed that among these small cultivators less than one in a hundred have their rice hulled otherwise than by the wooden mortar. That primitive mode has been, from time immemorial, and still is, used in all the rice-growing regions of the East. For a small crop the mortar is amply sufficient.—We should vote the owner of one of our immense wheat fields, decidedly behind the age, who should attempt to harvest his crop with a sickle, instead of a reaper. But if his field consisted only of a half acre, we should think the sickle or the cradle by far the most convenient instrument.

Probably, the method by which, according to Father Bourzes, rice in India is divested of its hull, might be adopted here with great advantage. The rough-rice, before pounding, is thrown into water moderately hot, and suffered to remain there for a few minutes, when it is taken out and dried in the sun.—It is then freed from the *glume* with a very little pounding, and leaves the grains of rice, he says, far less broken than in Europe where this process of macerating it previous to pounding, is not practiced.

Some will ask—*cui bono*—what is the use of "*being at the trouble*" of raising rice, when we have in Illinois, wheat, corn, and other products in abundance for food? If, to avoid effort, mental and physical, is the great *desideratum* of life, the questioner stops far too short. He should extend his enquiry and ask, why it would not be better for us, like the roving Tartar, to live upon horse flesh and mare's milk? Horses can be raised with as little labor on the vast plains of the far west, as on the steppes of Tartary. Why not, like him, when we need a new suit of clothes, call in the aid of a tailor that works in horse hide, who in a few minutes would fit to the whole person a single garment freshly taken from the back of a three year old colt? Such a suit could be obtained with very little "*trouble*," would last for years, do away with the labor now required of us to

earn broadcloth and linen, and save our families the trouble of making soap.

The subject of food is intimately connected with that of civilization and the onward progress of the human race. The famine in Ireland, caused by the continued disease of the potatoe, has proved a rich blessing to that country. Since the Irish peasant could no longer be fed upon a single and coarse article of food, both he, and Ireland herself, have made greater progress than they did in the whole century preceding.

In the annual Address, delivered at the Fair of the State Agricultural Society, in 1855, the Orator of the day, with the hand of a master, drew a picture of early times in the west, when many a farmer was content to cultivate but ten acres, raising upon that single field, year after year, an ill-tended crop of corn. The food of his family consisted of two articles only—"bacon and corn-dodgers."

That race, at least in Illinois, has long since passed away. But should a specimen of that breathing fossil yet linger upon this side of the *Styx*, you will find him opposed to any improvement in the *fodder* of his household. He firmly believes that railroads, Agricultural Societies, and Free Schools, are ruining our sucker State, every acre of which has already been trebled in value by those institutions.

BLUFFDALE, Green County, Ill.

Fruit Growing in Oregon.

MARION CO., STATE OF OREGON, }
April 25th, A. D. 1859. }

Editor *Illinois Farmer*:—May I occupy a space in one of the numbers of your "Farmer?" The subject of my remarks may not be *immediately pertinent* to the science of Pomology in Illinois; but, to amateurs or Pomologists of our country at large, all information, concerning fruit growing anywhere, is interesting. Many of your Illinois readers may one day, be fruit growers in some of the beautiful green valleys of Oregon. The people of the Eastern and Northern States supply the European market with excellent green apples, for which they receive remunerating prices. The people of Oregon, must, in like manner, supply the markets of California, Australia, Sandwich Islands, and China, with luscious fruits, peculiar to this country.

And here I would remark, that the science of Pomology and farming must all be learned anew, in this most singular climate and soil. As soon as the Traveller reaches the South Pass, and, like us, turns his face to the East, and with deep emotion exclaims, "My native land, adieu," he perceives a *marked change* in the phenomena of nature. And, as he advances westward, with the streams which flow into the mighty Columbia, he still perceives the great changes in nature. Arrived in Oregon, he finds a large and diversified country, interspersed

with tall, snow-capped mountains, extended valleys and little hills or *buttes*, as they are commonly called here. He may have been told that irrigation would have to be resorted to here in raising fruit trees and garden vegetables. But such is not the case in Oregon. In California, all fruit trees and garden plants must be irrigated to ensure any success in their growth or future life. On all the different soils of Oregon—four in number—apples, peas, plums, gooseberries, currants, cherries, (and in some cases, peaches) can be raised in abundance, and of the *very best quality*. A few men, some ten or twelve years ago here, turned their attention to fruit growing. Their trees were partly seedlings, and partly grafted and budded fruit. They generally planted in pits or holes dug in the ground after the fashion of the Eastern people.

They had tolerable success, and their orchards soon made for their owners little fortunes; as the apples sold for ten dollars per bushel at home! Soon experienced men went into the nursery business, and procured genuine sorts from the States; and corrected many spurious sorts here, and now fruit growing in Oregon has become the business of this country. The plan of planting trees in pits is abandoned here, and fruit trees are set on the top of well pulverized land, manured and banked up, and general success is the result. The same varieties do not succeed on all of our different soils and locations. Our hill lands are red and are strongly impregnated with oxide of iron. Our valley lands are generally a deep, black, vegetable loam—clay subsoil—moist and very mellow. Our gravel lands are a mixture of gravel, decomposed rock and vegetable mould, and forming some of our bottom lands. They are very productive. The soil on the mountains is black, rich and moist, having the growth of the low bottom lands—elder, alder, maple, raspberries, wild currants and wild gooseberries! The climate is variable here according to the *altitude*, more than the *latitude*. During the *excessively hard winter*, just passed here, snow never laid thirty hours on the ground at a time where I live; which is on a low fertile bottom, ten miles east of the Willamette river, on a mountain stream; while in from ten to twenty-five miles east of us, and nearer the slopes of the Cascade mountains, snow lay from one to five feet deep from six to twelve weeks, and is yet glistening in the sun, and the air even down here is yet chilly! A person can pass in two or three days travel here, from smiling green valleys, ripe fruit and waving grain, to cold frosty nights, gulches with snow from five to one hundred feet deep, and a cold dry atmosphere! Hence you can see that fruit will succeed here, commonly grown in the United States from Tennessee to Canada.—The July Bough succeeds here only on our low, warm bottoms. The Winesap, White Winter Pearmain, Esopus Spitzenberg, Yellow N. Pippin, Blue Pearmain, Fall Pippin, Gravenstein, Tulpehocken, Rambo, Ohio Favorite, Waxen, Rawles' Janet and Fall Queen succeed well on our bottom and hill lands. Northern pears succeed well on the various locations here as far as tried. Our summers here are not very long nor hot; spring and fall, however, blend most delight-

fully with our summers here. The Washington, Jefferson, Coes' Golden Drop, White Egg, Smith's Orleans, Green Gage and Columbia Plums succeed here finely. We are sometimes annoyed here with late frosts in the Spring, which injure the fruits and often kill some of the fruit trees. Apple trees bear here at two or three years from the graft, and pears from two to four years! At present prospects were never better for a fruit crop in Oregon. I have 1800 fruit trees under cultivation. For two years we have eaten of the luscious fruits of our own raising; and this year we will probably sell enough to pay the first cost of our trees—\$800. A thorough knowledge is requisite here, of the chemical analysis of our various soils, in order to ensure permanent success in Pomology. There is a lack of lime in most of our soils here; and trees, which require limestone soil, will not succeed here, unless supplied with ashes and bone dust.—The Green N. Pippin, Ladies' Sweeting, and Baldwin, as a general thing, fail here. Some varieties succeed well on certain locations and fail on others. But very few varieties succeed well everywhere. I do not know of any orchards planted out here more than 800 feet above the level of the Willamette river. I have no doubt, however, but that certain northern varieties of fruit can be successfully reared on the mountains here, 1800 feet above our low valleys. What is remarkable here is, that our fruits are generally *long keepers*, while in California, their late keepers are only *fall apples*! The G. N. Pippin, Rawles Janet, Romanite, Tulpehocken, Esopus Spitzenberg and Winesap, with proper care, will remain sound and good here, till new apples are fit for use! Several varieties of Pears here will keep well, till the 1st of May. The apples here, as compared with those in the States, are very large, and the quality is the admiration of all who taste them. The same holds true of our pears, plums, gooseberries and cherries. Grapes succeed here admirably, and are becoming quite common in Oregon. The science of Pomology, however, is only in its infancy here; but yet enough is known to convince all that Oregon is one of the best fruit growing sections in North America, and that the business of fruit growing will always "pay" here.

I find the study and practice of Pomology the most pleasing of any branch of science, to which I have ever turned my attention. I hope that a large accession will be made to our present number of fruit growers in Oregon, and that the various experiments going on here in Pomology, will receive marked attention. A Fruit Growers' Society is already here, and a monthly paper, called "The Oregon Farmer," is devoted to the interests of fruit growing and farming in Oregon, and is published in Portland in this State. Will you exchange with the Editor of the Oregon Farmer?

I have thus run on in a string of rather scattering remarks, in my letter, and those remarks may not be as acceptable to your readers, as I might wish. The heads of my remarks might occupy twenty pages of common writing paper, if well written, and the subjects only *glanced* at. To my old acquaintances in Illinois, who are farmers and

fruit growers, I tender my lasting wish for their success and prosperity; and to you, my much esteemed friend, S. Francis, I send my cordial greetings.

DAVID NEWSOM.

Wheat!

Editor of the Farmer:—I recollect, when three years ago you cautioned our farmers against depending upon a wheat crop, in Sangamon county, that you was often censured. We have tried the crop three times more, and if there has not been a uniform failure, it has come very near to it. I believe that wheat can be raised here under favorable circumstances—when the ground is new—when the land is rolling, so that the water can run off—the wheat well put in and the winter and spring favorable. In the last twenty years I have seen many noble fields of wheat in Sangamon; and I have seen years when farmers have lost the use of their land, lost the use of their labor, and their seed, in endeavoring to raise wheat. This has been so often the case, that it has become a proverb with me, that a farmer who sows wheat for ten years will usually fail and lose his farm.

Now is a good time to think of this matter seriously. We have not had a crop this year. We might have done better had we chosen to prepare the grounds well. It is folly to expect a crop of wheat here, on old ground, unless it is well prepared, the seed put in well and the ground drained.

Brother farmers, we must give our attention to other branches of farming. Central Illinois is a stock country, and stock pays all the time. Yours, &c., R. C. P.

Chinese Cane for Stock.

MR. EDITOR:—An attentive examination of several leading agricultural papers last winter and spring, has satisfied me that the Chinese Sugar Cane, sown broadcast, may be mowed at least twice in the season, and the product be used as a most valuable food for stock. I am led to believe that for this purpose it will prove a more valuable article for cultivation than Hungarian millet.

The land should be well prepared for this crop; ploughed deep and well, and if the seed is drilled in, it will answer a good purpose, and if sowed broadcast it ought to be ploughed in, or harrowed in well, and if the ground is rolled afterwards, the better.

When the plant is up three or four feet, it should be cut and dried and put away for winter. In a few weeks there will be another crop from the same plants, which should be cut and dried and housed in the same way.

The Cane, too, may be grown to its full size, cut, placed away in the fall and can be fed to hogs, horses and cattle. If cut up in a straw cutter, it will be better feed. Cattle having no upper teeth, find difficulty in eating the hard stalks. The cane possesses fine fattening qualities. This is the concurring testimony of all who have made the experiment of using the cane for fodder.

I am aware of the great popularity of the Hungarian grass, but I believe the cane can be made a more profitable article for feeding out to stock.

M.

Ditching.

Editor of the Farmer:—I have been one of your patrons for many years, and probably shall continue to be so, as long as I have any use for papers. I recollect, two years ago, you remonstrated against farmers of Central Illinois making the raising of wheat their main crop of dependence. You said that the history of the wheat crops in Central Illinois showed that it was not a crop to be relied on, and that (I recollect the expression) that "if a man had a farm given to him, with five thousand dollars in cash, and was to make the raising of wheat his sole reliance, he would be broken up in fifteen years." We lost two crops before this year, and now we have not half a crop. It seems to me that these failures ought to open our eyes to the necessity of abandoning the raising of wheat as a staple crop, or to some new mode of cultivating wheat.—What is the fact? Wheat has been raised in Sangamon County for thirty-five years, and at this time our farmers do not understand how to grow wheat with any tolerable certainty of a crop.

Does not this appear strange to you? It does to me. Can we not learn anything by failures? Do we know the cause? Cannot we ascertain? Have not enough experiments been made to build a theory of some certainty?

When the early settlers came to this county they made as a general fact (so I learn,) good crops of wheat. They selected rolling ground, or dry grounds for their fields, from which water would run off. The land was new. It possessed qualities which even now, newly broken up land, on rolling grounds secure, nine times out of ten, good crops of this grain. But our farmers have exhausted those qualities of our virgin soil on rolling lands which make wheat, and these lands will not produce well unless they are well prepared for the crop. A great portion of the country is made up of level lands—subject to being saturated with water and to remain so, summer and winter, as long as we have heavy and unusual rains. These lands cannot be relied on for a crop of wheat in this condition. To put in wheat upon them, a farmer runs about the same chance of getting a crop that he would of drawing a high prize in a lottery.—The season may be favorable; it may be unusually dry, so that the wheat will not be drowned; snow may cover the ground in the winter, so that it will not winter kill; but where these favorable circumstances occur once, unfavorable circumstances are likely to occur nine times. Hence I regard it as certain, that wheat is not to be a profitable crop for Central Illinois at this time or at any future time, unless under the following condition of things:

1st. That the land shall be thoroughly drained. Surface draining will answer a tolerable purpose, if drains are sufficiently near to carry off the water promptly as it falls. Better than this, if the land is thoroughly underdrained.

2d. That the ground shall be in good order; fallowed early in summer, so that all the early growth of weeds shall be killed and thoroughly rotted before plowing in the fall. The ground to be plowed in the fall and the seed to be well drilled in the ground.

3d. The seed to be the best, and to be entirely free from chaff, or the seeds of other noxious plants. This cultivation may secure good wheat in Central Illinois, and without such cultivation, it will ever be an uncertain crop.

J. S. F.

Ditching.

Mr. Editor:—I have tried a little mole ditching on my farm. It works to a charm. I tried it on a piece of land which was wet and cold and swampy, and it is now in fine order as any land any where. I don't pretend to understand the philosophy of this thing; but I know it works like a charm upon the land. And this cold land, now the best on my farm by means of the mole ditching, furnishes me with an ample supply of stock water. I want you should write about this plan of ditching and talk about it, and when you come into my neighborhood, come and see me and I will show you the good effects of ditching. I am beginning to lose some of my old foggy notions, and you will, too, if you have any, when you see land where the mole plow has been made to work.

JIMTOWN, June 17.

R.

The Chess Question.

Mr. Editor:—Some of my brother farmers complain of their wheat turning to chess. On a part of my wheat field I sowed last fall wheat, in which there was no chess, and there I have no chess. In another part of the field, I sowed wheat which I was not particular to clean, and there I have chess.

I shall be particular to clean my wheat hereafter.

W.

The Floral Exhibition at Decatur.

Editor of the Farmer:—I was glad to see you at our first Floral Exhibition in this city. I will venture to say, that for a first effort, it was a very successful one. We were willing to copy from our sister city of Springfield, and to get up on our own account a duplicate of what we deem one of her most interesting institutions. It was the work of a few of our citizens, only contemplated a few days, but they went into the work with a will that accomplished all that you saw.

I take the fact to be that the love of flowers is born with us. How eagerly will the little girl, even before she can lisp a word, snatch the flower from the hand of her sister or mother, and how her eyes will sparkle at the sight! As we grow older, and, I may say, as our hearts become filled with other and grosser objects, we may, in a degree, forget the beauty of flowers, and cease to love them,—but that is hardly probable.

We had at our exhibition many of our older citizens, gentlemen and ladies, who seemed to enjoy, with the younger people, the beauty of the scene before them, and we doubt not, went away with the thought that the festival was one which should not hereafter be dispensed with. Here the poor and the rich, the aged and the young, met on a common level, and all seemed to be happy in each other's society. Is not even that a sufficient object once a year to pay for getting up a floral festival?

But there are other objects of importance to be considered in this connection. The exhibition of flowers, where all are gathered to observe and admire, creates a desire to procure the plants, to cultivate them about our dwellings, and to excel in their cultivation and the procuring of fine varieties. No doubt that it is to your Horticultural Society that you are indebted for the fine display of shrubbery in almost every garden in Springfield, and in which some are found in flower from the opening of spring until the arrival of winter.

Did you ever, sir, know a gentleman or lady who loved flowers, who delighted in cultivating them, that was not a good neighbor and a good citizen? Do you see the cottage, poor it may be, but neat, with shrubbery and flowers about it, and not feel that there is taste, intelligence and virtue there? How many gentlemen love home, because it is surrounded with these beautifiers, made doubly dearer by the dear hand that assists in their cultivation?

I hope that our example will be followed by other towns. Why do not Bloomington and Jacksonville, and Carlinville and Peoria and other places have these Spring Floral Festivals?—Cannot get them up? They can. A few spirited young men and ladies can do the work. From year to year they can enlarge and increase their interest. I hope to see more of these festivals.—They remind us of scenes and incidents of other days and other lands, made lovely by poetic descriptions. They are festivals without alloy,—where party, religious, clannish feelings are laid aside,—where we give the hour to the full enjoyment of those beauties from the hand of God which come down to us as they were presented to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden.

H.

Sowing Timothy with Buckwheat.

Editor of the Farmer:—Will it not answer a good purpose to sow timothy with Buckwheat? I have a field I wish to put in grass, and I have thought that I might make a crop of Buckwheat and of timothy at the same time. I reason thus. If I sow timothy with Buckwheat when the soil is moist enough to make the seed of both germinate, the Buckwheat will soon be up high enough to protect the timothy. My fear is, that the Buckwheat, which has a very fast growth, will injure the timothy by too dense a shade. If any one of your readers has experience on this point, I would be glad to hear from him through the pages of the FARMER.

AN ENQUIRER.

Strawberries.

Mr. Editor:—There are now a great many varieties of Strawberries cultivated, and there is an increasing desire among the people to secure supplies of this luxurious fruit. A little experience has shown that the plant can be easily cultivated, so as to produce large crops. It seems to me to be an important question now in regard to the best varieties. What we want, is a large, handsome, prolific Strawberry, that is sweet enough to eat with little or no sugar. Many of the varieties are so acid, that to make them palatable, you must use enormous quantities of sugar. Wilson's Albany is a very large, prolific Strawberry, hard, and consequently good to send to market, but it is *very* sour. So of other large Strawberries. If some amateur would give a list now of three varieties of sweet Strawberries for home consumption, and of as many for market purposes, he would greatly oblige the writer.

M.

A Time to Make an Impression.

Editor of the Farmer:—I do not know of a better time than the present to make an impression on the public mind of the value and importance of land draining. Go into the country now—look at the wheat land. What has killed the wheat on this section of your field—three-fourths of it drowned out and the rest too yellow to hope for any good from it? Water, water—it has been overflowed, and soaked in water for months. Wheat can never be made under such circumstances, and, in this country, on our flat lands and where we are subject to heavy rains as we are here,—we never can sow our wheat with any reasonable certainty of a crop, unless our lands are drained by surface or blind ditches. This thing is true—every sensible man knows it is true, and with the fact on his memory that he has lost two crops of wheat on the same kind of land, we will venture to say that some

persons will repeat the plowing and sowing on the same land, without ditching it, the coming fall. We say this because it has been repeatedly done, and we see no reason why it will not be done again by the same persons!

Well, one thing is a fact, that such men do not take Agricultural papers.—They plow and sow as their fathers did before them, and they will be likely to continue to do so. Here people complain of "hard times"—and don't they make them "hard?" Don't they, by neglect of common sense, contribute all they can to make themselves poor and the country poor? I think they do.

Central Illinois is not a wheat country. If wheat is made here, the ground should be put in excellent order, should not be subject to be drowned in winter, spring or summer, requiring much care to secure a reasonable certainty of a crop.—For any crop, the ground should be well drained, but for this it is absolutely necessary. On new, dry prairie, one or two crops can be made—after that the best cultivation is necessary.

Central Illinois is a corn country.—Drain your ground well and we can beat the world in crops of corn; and this corn can be used most profitably in raising stock. Our stock farmers—those who give their attention to the raising of horses, mules, cattle, sheep and hogs—make money. Those who give their time and land to the cultivation of wheat, lose money. They may make a good crop one year, but in the two that follow, very likely there will be a failure.

I suggest that farmers in central Illinois devote less attention to wheat and more to stock; that they get out of the business of raising wheat just as fast as they possibly can, and give their attention to stock. The hog crop can be raised in the same time required for a wheat crop, and it always pays.

A.

Mr. Editor:—How late will it answer to sow Hungarian Grass?

[ANSWER.—Last year some was sown in the middle of July and yielded a good crop.]

What time should Buckwheat be sown?

[From the 2d week in July to the first of August.]

Is it too late to sow the seed of the Rutabaga?

[The seed of the Rutabaga should be sown from the 10th to the 20th of June.]

When should the seed of the Mangel Wurtzell be sown?

[It will answer to sow it now, but it would have done much better sown six weeks ago.]

How much seed of the Sugar Cane

should be sowed on an acre for fodder?

[A bushel, if you have a plenty of seed.]

How long will it do to put off the sowing of Millet?

[Sow it just as soon as you can. If you do not grow seed, you can get an abundance of fodder from it.]

Did you ever, Mr. Editor, see corn sowed broadcast for a forage crop?

A.

[Yes, we have. Sow it now and you will have a fine yield of the best fodder for soiling stock in the months of August and September when feed is scarce. It is capital food, then, for milch cows.]

Underdraining.

Editor of the Farmer:—I beg leave to offer you a few thoughts on the subject suggested by the line at the head of this article, which I have had considerable experience in. Underdraining will be considered the sheet anchor to western agriculture. Our lands are rich enough, but in a country where it is said that sixteen inches of water can fall in a single month, and not half try, we need special appliances for getting rid of the surplus. This excessive wet lies at the bottom of the almost total failure of crops every two or three years, which is sure to befall the country. If our lands are drained, and farmers prepared for wet weather, these things would not be so. Here we have the mole ditchers which is applicable to drain our lands in the most thorough manner desired, which presses a hole three feet under ground, the size of which is five by six inches, intersecting numerous little springs and water seeps, so that no ditch whatever, should be much over one hundred and sixty rods in length, as they, of this length, will intersect enough of water seeps to cause them to run full.—All wet land and sloughs that have from two to three inches fall to the one hundred feet, can be drained to satisfaction. So also can most ponds, without any extra labor or expense whatever, the land around them generally being from a foot to eighteen inches higher than in the center, making a rise to come over with the ditch, notwithstanding it generally drains them to perfection. We had one drained on our farm that was near a tenant house, by which was a well of water, fifteen rods from the ditch that run through the yard. It drained the pond in less than one day's time, and sunk the water in the well some three feet in the same length of time. This ditch was some sixty rods in length, with a great fall to it. Recollect the shorter the ditch the sooner the land will be drained by it. Will it pay? I contend that it will pay, even pay a tenant in many cases, that has only the use of the land for one year. There has been many a farmer this season while plowing, has had to swamp his team through muddy places knee deep, from four to six rods in width, where once he grew good corn. These are the places where it will pay a tenant the first year to have ditched, making the land equally as dry as the rolling land on either side of it, and growing decidedly the best corn in his field on those muddy places, making enough to pay rent and all cost of ditching

the first year, leaving a clear saving to him of swamping and slaving his team through the mud.

Where the land is applicable to being ditched by them it matters but little whether it is done at a cost of twenty-five cents or fifteen cents a rod, as the extra amount of grain grown upon the ditch is most generally amply sufficient to pay the cost of the ditch the first year after it is cut, and every person that is acquainted with ditches would rather have them at double the cost we charge for cutting them, than to have an open ditch dug for nothing. For a large scope of wet land where the ditches would require to be of greater length than above stated, I would advise digging open ditches deep enough to make connections with the mole ditcher, and then all ponds within one hundred rods or more may be drawn in this, provided they have the requisite amount of fall. Mr. John Lee, of New Berlin, has a large tract of wet land that he has worked in this way, and used the mole ditcher to considerable extent in cutting in side drains, and he tells me that he has a fine prospect, at this time, for a good crop of wheat on land that used to be perfect goose ponds. He has had these underground ditches cut about one year, and he is so perfectly well satisfied about their durability and adaptableness, that he designs going on to thoroughly drain his land with them.

I have not gone into any thorough drainage on my farm, but have some 2000 rods cut in sloughs, hollows and wet places of about two years standing, all of which is doing well and running as flush as the day they were cut. I have conversed with gentlemen of undoubted veracity, that say they have seen the ditches that were cut seven years ago equally as good as the day they were cut, and giving entire satisfaction. I suppose we have cut some 20,000 rods since we have been engaged in the business, all giving pretty general satisfaction, except some few cases, and those being in the manner the work was done. Indeed so fully am I persuaded of their durability, that I have an abiding confidence that they will last for ages.

Fruit growing will never succeed here on undrained land; therefore, every farmer contemplating setting out an orchard, or planting a grape vine would do well to have the mole ditcher run every two rods apart, where they contemplate setting their trees. It makes no difference how rolling the land is, it will pay.

It seems that the mole ditchers are just the thing that we want, and need, and must have, and they will ultimately make the blooming State of Illinois groan under the luxuriant and heavy burdens of crops that they will cause it to produce.

If I have not stated facts, let those answer that we have ditched for in the western part of Sangamon county.

SAMUEL HENSLEY.

Berlin, Ill., June 10.

A Good Prospect for Wheat

Editor of the Farmer:—A few days ago I visited the neighborhood of the farm of Mr. Neil M. Taggart, about four miles south-east of Springfield. I observed that every crop on his farm prom-

ised well; and I did not discover that it possessed any natural advantages over the farms of his neighbors, either as a rolling farm, or one more easily drained than theirs.

Mr. M. Taggart is a Scotchman, brought up a farmer in Scotland, and understands the advantages of draining, and of doing work when it ought to be done. He has been on his farm here some five years, and has made it pay all the time. He does all his work thoroughly—plows his land deep; tills it well and does not suffer his work to drive him when he can possibly help it, but drives his work. By thorough and deep plowing, he has made good crops of corn and wheat, when his neighbors have partially failed in making crops.

He has capital fields of wheat this season. His land being low, he plowed it into eighteen feet lands; so as to leave a deep furrow every eighteen feet for carrying off the water. Late in the fall, in winter and in Spring, when heavy rains filled up his drain furrows, he took his shovel and opened them, and the water ran off. The wheat is now of good height, with enough on the ground, and the heads of unusual length. He says that he has made forty-two bushels of wheat from an acre in this country, and his wheat at this time promises a greater yield than any he has yet grown.—The wheat is of the white blue stem variety.

There can be no question that this excellent prospect for wheat is caused by thorough cultivation. A farmer may cheat himself in the cultivation of his land, but he can't cheat his crops.—“Draining” is the word which ought to be first in every farmer's vocabulary.—Land well drained, will bring the crops all the time; and that farmer who expects to make great crops on the old system of scratching his land, and letting the seed after it is planted, in a good measure, take care of itself, had better give up farming altogether.

A. M. C.

The United States Fair—Its Interference with the State Society.

We have already announced that the United States Agricultural Society has determined to hold its next annual fair at Chicago. This, of course, cannot be done without a very manifest interference with the Illinois State Society, whose next fair is to be held at Freeport. We doubt not the press and the people of this State generally will disapprove of the unfair course which the former society is pursuing. It looks like intrusion for it to have selected Chicago for its show grounds, when our own State Society had previously located its fair at another point so near.—We believe that no fair can be held at

Chicago prior or subsequent to the Freeport fair, that will not materially affect the interests and diminish the resources of the State Society—at a time, too, when the most burthensome interests are shouldered by our Society, and which it is struggling to promote, and has had the enterprise to assume to foster—an enterprise which thus far has led all other similar organizations. We say, at such a time it is especially disastrous that such should be the course pursued by the United States Society. The *Prairie Farmer*, in a very well-timed article on this subject, says:

“What are the interests that have induced this location? Have prominent agriculturalists urged it? Have they proffered a welcome to a society that will take much out of their pockets and put little in? Dr. Kennicott, informally and unofficially favored its location here, at the annual meeting, but the Executive Board of the society, of which he is President, has taken no action in the matter, and the fair is located without even such an invitation.—Who then are the parties who have invited the United States Society to hold its fair here? Real estate owners, hotel proprietors, stock holders in the city railways, and speculators generally—perhaps it may be said Chicago has given the invitation.”

The *Farmer* goes on to say:

“We have no fault to find with the parties who have sought to subserve their own interests by inducing such location. But we do regard it as highly impolitic, that, in spite of the protests of the State Board through its presiding officer, and in spite of the U. S. Society's repeated declarations that it would not hold a fair where it would interfere with a State organization, it should so forget its own dignity and position as to come to Chicago uninvited—even by a county organization. We have but very little respect for this Society with its present characteristics. We highly respect many of its officers personally. We believe it may be made eminently useful when it confines its labors to its own legitimate sphere. We do not propose to fight it, or throw any obstacle in the way of its usefulness, or the success of its exhibition. But our influence and labor shall be directed to make the fair of the State Society a success, and induce the people to regard it a home institution—as *their* institution, and one which it is their duty, and should be their delight to honor, sustain and and strengthen, so long as its efforts go to promote home interests and accelerate progress.”

We agree fully with the sentiments entertained by the *Prairie Farmer*.—

That paper although published at Chicago, looks at the subject from a fair and judicious point of view, and we doubt not its remarks will meet the approbation of the great body of the farming and manufacturing community, not only of this part of the State but also of all Northern Illinois. As is well known, our State Fair was located at Freeport at the earnest solicitation of the North, and it is their duty and it ought to be their determination to frown down the efforts now being made by the hotel keepers and cabmen of Chicago to impair its interests. We have no hostility to the United States Agricultural Society, and we should on a proper occasion extend to it a cordial welcome to the State, but in its present antagonistic position to our own Society, we feel that it is not now doing the fair thing—what indeed, as a conservator of the interests of agriculture it has no right to do.

We copy the above from the *Illinois State Journal*. It meets our views, and we doubt not will be entirely approved of by ninety-nine out of every hundred farmers in this State. The holding of the United State Fair at Chicago, the present year, under all the circumstances of the case, is a wanton and ruthless interference in the wishes of Illinois farmers, unjust to our State Agricultural Society, and evinces on the part of the Managers of the U. S. Agricultural Society an entire disregard of the Agricultural interests of this State and of State Society, which is laboring in season and out of season, in its appropriate field of duty, to advance the Agricultural interests of our people. If the State Agricultural Societies are thus to be annoyed and injured by the U. S. Society, the sooner that Society goes out of existence the better. We doubt not but that will be the sentiment of the farmers of Illinois.

Premiums for Farms, Farm Crops, Etc.

ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
Office Cor. Sec., Springfield, June 7, 1859.

TO THE FARMERS OF ILLINOIS:—The present season promises to be a favorable one. Farms, nurseries, &c., can be put in good order for exhibition, and large crops are likely to be made. The officers of the State Agricultural Society desire that there shall be many competitors for the premiums offered for the best farms, nurseries, groves and field crops. Hence, the re-publication of the following premiums offered, from their premium list, is made, and to which they respectfully invite your attention:

FIELD CROPS.

Best ten pounds of Sugar made from Chinese or African Sugar Cane.....Gold Medal.
Second best.....\$15

Third best.....10
Best gallon of syrup made from Chinese or African Sugar Cane.....15
Second best.....10
Third best.....5

[Ten pounds of sugar and one gallon of syrup must be deposited by competitors for these premiums with the Corresponding Secretary.]

Best crop of Fall Wheat, not less than five acres.....\$25
Best crop of Spring Wheat, not less than 5 acres.....25
Best crop of Indian Corn, not less than five acres to be shelled and weighed between the 5th of November and 1st January.....25
Second best.....15
Best crop of Rye, not less than five acres.....20
Second best.....10
Best crop of Buckwheat, not less than five acres....10
Second best.....5
Best crop of Field peas not less than half acre.....10
Second best.....Medal.
Best crop of White Beans, not less than half acre.....10
Second best.....Medal.
Best crop of Potatoes, not less than half acre.....10
Second best.....Medal.

[Specimens of the quality of the Potatoes must be exhibited at the Fair.]

Best crop of Sweet Potatoes, not less than quarter acre.....\$10
Second best.....Medal.
Best crop of Onions, not less than Quarter acre.....10
Second best.....Medal.
Best five acres Fall Barley.....10
Best five acres Spring Barley.....10
Best five acres Hemp.....10
Best acre of Flax.....10
Best acre of Broom Corn.....10
Best acre of Clover Seed.....10
Best acre of Timothy seed.....10
Best acre of Blue Grass seed.....10
Best acre of Timothy seed.....10
Best acre of Flax seed.....10
Best acre of Castor Beans.....10

Statements to be furnished by applicants for premiums:
1st. Specimens to be at the Fair Grounds for exhibition, if practicable.

2d. The land shall be measured by some competent person, who shall make affidavit of the accuracy of the measurement and quality of the ground.

3d. The applicant and one disinterested person shall make affidavit to the quantity of grain and other products raised on the ground; the kind and condition of soil; the quantity and kind of seed used; time and mode of planting, and mode of cultivation.

4th. The grain and seed must be weighed after being in merchantable condition, and calculation made according to the legal weight per bushel. Potatoes, onions, &c., measured; the weight of hemp or flax when prepared for market.

All crops in the above list to be entered with S. Francis, Corresponding Secretary, before the first day of next December.

The premiums to be awarded by the Executive Board, at their meeting in January, 1860.

FARMS, NURSERIES, &c.

Best improved and highly cultivated Farm, not less than 500 acres.....Gold Medal
Second best.....\$15
Best improved and highly cultivated Farm, not less than 160 acres.....Gold Medal
Second best.....\$15
Best improved and highly cultivated Farm, not less than 40 acres.....Gold Medal
Second best.....\$15
Best arranged and economically conducted Dairy Farm.....Gold Medal
Second best.....\$15
Best improved Farm for all purposes.....Gold Medal
Best arranged and economically conducted Prairie Farm.....Gold Medal
Second best.....\$15
Best grove of cultivated timber on the prairie.....Gold Medal
Second best.....Silv. Medal
Best arranged and cultivated Nursery of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants.....\$20
Second best.....10
Best arranged and cultivated Nursery of the various Fruit Trees.....20
Second best.....10
Best arranged and cultivated Nursery of grafted Apple Trees, from 1 to 4 years old.....20
Second best.....10
Best show of 1 and two year old grafted or budded Apple Trees.....10
Second best.....5

The committee, in making their award, will be governed by the general arrangement, cultivation, thrift, pruning and training of trees and shrubs. All competitors are required to furnish the committee, at the time of examination, or before they make their award, a written statement of the mode of the preparation of the nursery grounds—the manner of cultivation, mode of pruning trees, shrubs and plants in their respective nurseries.

All persons who desire to compete for the above premiums must communicate their intention to S. Francis, Corresponding Secretary, Springfield, Ill., by letter previous to the 1st of August, so as to give the Committee full time to examine the farms, nurseries and groves to be entered.

Awarding Committee:

Benj. F. Johnson.....Urbana
Dr. E. H. Clapp.....Peoria
Ch. H. Rosentiel.....Freeport
S. FRANCIS, Cor. Sec'y.

We often see in a beautiful field, a clump of bushes, which the owner is too lazy to clear off. Does that look like good farming?

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, JULY 1, 1859.

A Great Battle--Provisions Low.

Our people have been calculating on high prices for produce on account of the present war in Europe. The same arrival which brought us the information of a sanguinary battle in Italy between the Austrian army and the Allied army of French and Sardinians, in which the former lost 26,000 men, and the latter 12,000,—also brought information that provisions were low and markets dull in Europe. Our farmers should recollect that a war in Europe,—a local war, as that which now exists is, stimulates the agriculturists of the country to produce large crops. Latterly, crops have been fine in Europe. Europe needs little food from us; and while this fact is presented, she is sending into our country immense cargoes of goods, for which we pay her gold. She does not want our produce to feed her soldiers or her manufacturers; her farmers raise enough food for this purpose; but she wants and will have, in payment, our gold. Her manufacturers are now flourishing by her trade with us. That is precisely the present state of things in Europe.

What is the condition here? Our manufacturers barely live,—they do not extend their business; many of those who would engage in manufactories are cultivating the soil in the east—are producers instead of consumers; and our western farmers, if they have good crops, cannot reasonably look for good markets. Our people, who talk as though they idolized Henry Clay, turn their backs upon the great principles by which he hoped to secure permanent prosperity to our farmers, and have sacrificed, to a great extent, their manufacturing interests, which, encouraged by government, would have secured permanent prosperity to our farming interests—and also to the people of the Eastern States, who would gladly have gone into the work-shops and furnished a market for the products of the West.

We have been hoping that the war in Europe would furnish a market for Western produce. We are likely to be mistaken. We can at any time secure permanent markets and paying prices

for the produce of our farmers, by carrying out the policy initiated by the fathers of our country, and which has been sacrificed for the purpose of securing the votes of the Slave States, for the advancement of party, in utter disregard of the interests of the farmers.

Cashmere Goats--A New Source of Wealth to Illinois Farmers.

In 1838, Dr. James B. Davis, of South Carolina, then a resident of Turkey, and holding an appointment under the Sultan, in the agricultural department of that government, conceived the idea of taking advantage of his position to secure a few of these valuable goats, for the purpose of introducing them into this country. In pursuance of this purpose, with the consent of the Sultan, he penetrated into Cashmere with an armed company, and fortunately secured seven female and two male goats, which he was obliged to remove secretly. His object was, however, discovered by the natives, who pursued him for the purpose of recovering the animals, and it was only by the loss of several of his party that he made good his escape, with the goats in his possession. These goats he introduced into South Carolina, and in a communication to the Patent Office in 1853, he states that the pure bloods had then increased to thirty, while the crosses on the common goats were numerous. The products of these pure bloods have since been purchased by a wealthy company in Tennessee, who have been actively engaged in crossing them upon the common goat, for the purpose of making the Cashmere Shawl wool, an article of staple product in this country. It has been ascertained that the wool of the third cross from the full bred and the common goat approximates closely to the finest Cashmere produced in Asia. The wool from the goats already reared by crossing with the common goats, is at present only manufactured in Glasgow, Scotland, and commands \$8 per pound, each goat producing about three pounds and three fleeces during the year.

These goats have proved to be entirely hardy in New York, as well as in South Carolina, and the wool of the mixed bloods has been ascertained, by a scientific examination, to be nearly equal in fineness to that of which the imported Cashmere Shawls, of one thousand dollars value, are made. The value of the wool, the demand for it, the hardiness of the goats, and the suitability of our climate for their health and propaga-

tion, indicate the expediency of continuing the crosses of the pure blood upon the common stock of the country as rapidly as possible. For this purpose bucks of fine blood have been introduced into Tennessee, Mississippi and Texas, and B. F. Bristow, Esq., of Jacksonville, Morgan county, has accepted an agency from the owners of the pure bloods, to introduce the stock into Illinois. If the project undertaken by him is seconded by any considerable number of our farmers, their propagation will be a source of wealth, and especially so to those who first engage in the business.

The Jacksonville Sentinel contains a communication from Mr. Bristow on the subject under notice, in which he refers to the origin of these goats, to the beautiful fabric made of their wool, to the peaceable and quiet nature of the animal, to their hardiness, enduring the heat of the burning suns of the South, and the cold blasts of the North, to their thriving well on the coarsest as well as the finest herbage; to their ability to defend themselves from the attacks of dogs; to the rapidity of their propagation, the females bringing two kids in five months gestation, and to the fact that four crosses on the common goat of the country will bring the wool nearly up to the standard of full bloods, (an evidence of which Mr. B. can furnish in specimens of wool.)

Mr. Bristow is acting for a responsible company, will make contracts in their behalf, and will furnish security for the performance of those contracts. He concludes the communication referred to by saying:

"My plan of delivery and contract is this: I bind the company in the sum three hundred dollars, to deliver to each one who makes an engagement with me, beginning the 1st day of December next, and ending the 1st day of December 1861, three bucks annually; the first to be 3-4 Cashmere, the second 7-8, and the third 15-16ths; for which I am to receive, on the delivery of each animal, the sum of one hundred dollars. I will continue to enlighten the public upon the value of this animal by giving extracts from the Patent Office Reports, Washington, and also the opinion of the leading wool growers of the country, all going to show that instead of the culture of this animal being in any way associated with a species of humbuggery, so common to our country, that it is one of the most valuable as well as wonderful developments in an important department of agriculture, and promises a richer harvest to those who may engage in it, than any other business in this wonder working age."

Farmers desirous of further information on the subject of these Cashmere Goats, are referred to the Patent Office

Report of 1856. Several of these Goats were exhibited at the Illinois State Fair, held at Centralia, last fall, and although there was no premium offered for such animals, their excellence was so marked, and the prospect of adding another branch of wealth to our national industry by their propagation so satisfactory, that the State Society awarded to their owner a liberal premium.

Horticultural Exhibition in Southern Illinois.

The Pomological and Horticultural Society of Southern Illinois held their first exhibition at Jonesboro, on the 31st of May and the 1st of June. It was a very creditable exhibition. The City Hall was provided with tables, which were well covered with fruits and flowers, cereals, &c., the products of the season. The strawberries were the great feature of the exhibition. Dr. J. A. Warder exhibited 33 varieties—not for competition. We saw there specimens of wheat and rye seven and a half feet high. Mr. Benj. Vancil, of South Pass, contributed specimens of seed cane; native molasses, native flowers, &c., &c., and exhibited a great variety of garden and horticultural tools. Mr. J. A. Carpenter, of South Pass, an agricultural library, gardening tools, microscope, etc. Newhall & Clark, South Pass, nine varieties of strawberries, and a handsome lot of cucumbers. Robert Gow, Anna, early garden vegetables—tomatoes, nearly ripe. James H. Crane, of Burkeville, a bundle of ripe May wheat. J. M. Hunter, the "Ashley nurseryman," a great variety of garden and green-house plants. The ladies of Jonesboro presented flowers, early fruits, canned peaches, blackberries, etc. Mr. Willard's family exhibited garden vegetables, rare and fine—Wyatt's Victoria Rhubarb, of colossal dimensions. Dr. Condon had present his fine collections in natural history. James Price, of Sandoval, choice perpetual roses and other flowers. Charles Kennicott, of the Egyptian Nurseries, Sandoval, a great variety of roses, delphiniums, phlox, and verbennas. Mr. Simons, of Jonesboro, fine specimens of blackberry and currant wines. Wm. Yates, of Tamaroa, Wilson's Albany Strawberry, the largest variety present. Messrs. Lobdell & Davis, Centralia, fine wine, from the currant, and specimens of fine currants and gooseberries—varieties rhubarb. We are unable to give

the names of all the contributors. We came away at the close of the first day's exhibition, delighted with all we saw—with the town of Jonesboro—its citizens—and the country—(destined to be the great fruit region of Illinois.) May we be there again in the season of peaches!

On the evening of the first day's exhibition, Dr. Warder delivered an address in the Court House "On the Strawberry Question," embracing the history of its cultivation at Cincinnati, and the proper mode of cultivating this luxurious fruit, by which every family, having a small patch of ground, can supply themselves with all that they desire. This address, with the awards at Jonesboro, will be a valuable contribution to the forthcoming volume of the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society. The next exhibition will be held in Belleville in the month of August.

"THE MICROSCOPIC COMPANION."—A popular manual of practical Microscopy, designed for those engaged in Microscopic Investigations, Schools, Seminaries, Colleges, etc., and comprising selections from the best writers on the Microscope, relative to its use, mode of management, preservation of objects, etc., to which is added a glossary of the principal terms used in Microscopic science. By John King, M. D. Illustrated with 114 cuts. Printed by Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, 1859.

It is not possible in a brief paragraph to give an idea of the exceeding value of this work. The Microscope opens to our vision, in all the departments of nature, new and wonderful creations of beauty and magnificence. It shows us living and well organized life where we would not expect to find it. It is of immense value to the physician, the geologist, the mineralogist and the botanist. It enables one to discover the adulterations in food, in drugs, pants, oils, milk and other articles of value. To the farmer, it can be rendered of vast service in the detection of foul seed, of seed affected by minute insects, or fungus or smut.

The work is an able elucidation of the principles which enter into the construction of the Microscope, and the various uses to which it can be advantageously applied. These instruments are now furnished at a small expense in Cincinnati. We recommend this work as embracing information in a department of knowledge to which few of the people have access.

FARMER'S CONGRESS AT MENDOTA.—The North-Western Prairie Farmer of June 11, contains the proceedings of a meeting of farmers at Mendota. The names of sixty-two persons are given as delegates—most of them from Lee and neighboring counties. The main objects of the meeting seemed to be to get up an organization among producers so as to control the prices of produce, as well as to reduce the prices of goods to be purchased by them of merchants; and to collect and publish statistics of the condition of crops,—so as to prevent produce operators from speculating upon the same to the injury of producers.—Several years ago an organization was gotten up in this city for similar purposes; but it lasted only for a short period. The meeting voted to hold a Convention in Freeport during the State Fair.

WHITE ASH AND SOFT MAPLE.—The seeds of these valuable timber trees are now ripe. They can be gathered as soon as ripe, and sown in seed beds, where they will come up in a few days, and make good plants for next year's setting. The trees grow rapidly, quite as much so as locusts, and are beautiful in all stages of their growth. Farmers on the prairies will do well to obtain these seeds the present season, and in two years they will have young trees for transplanting into groves and skirts of timber, for prairie protection, fuel and timber, that will pay a thousand per cent on their cost.

STRAWBERRIES.—"Rural," in the Chicago Press and Tribune, says:

"Those who have no spare place for this delicious fruit, can plant among the early corn in the garden; the shade will benefit them, and a season will be gained. Two or three dollars invested in plants will soon make a new bond of union in the family, and the domestic board will be one of interest to the little folks; and even those old curmudgeons who pull up their purse strings when asked for these cheap luxuries by their wives and little ones, can enjoy them exceedingly well when away from home, and they cost them nothing."

A friend in the country, on a very small piece of ground, the present season, at very little cost, raised strawberries enough for abundant family use, besides selling to the amount of *forty dollars!*

We can supply any demand for plants.

Premiums for Mowers and Reapers.

ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
Springfield, June 11, 1859. }


The Illinois State Agricultural Society solicit the exhibition for competition and premium at the State Fair, to be held at Freeport on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th days of September next, reapers and mowers, manufactured in this State or elsewhere. The society offers for the best reaper, taking into consideration its cost, its lasting qualities, and the economy with which it can be worked, the society's large gold medal; 2nd best, silver medal.


The society also offers for the best mower, taking into consideration its cost; its lasting qualities, and the economy with which it may be worked, the society's large gold medal; 2d best, silver medal.


The Awarding Committee in Class F. No. 28, (see premium list for 1859,) will be the Awarding Committee upon Reapers and Mowers, viz: Isaac Evans, Galena; Andrew Devinny, Hampton; Stephen Norton, Danville; N. Smith, Lawn Ridge; David Lawson, Macomb; Elliott Stephenson, Jacksonville; Benj. Miller, Newton; Felix Scott, Chairman Belleville.

S. FRANCIS,

Cor. Sec. Ill. State Ag. Soc.

 The Rat-eating Chinese could make a fat living at this time, in some sections of this State; and the French glove makers (who make *kid* gloves of rat skins) could find plenty of stock for their business.

 The blackberry crop promises to be good every where; but in Southern Illinois the fruit can be gathered in the season, by tons. A capital Claret can be made of the juice, sweetened a little with sugar—not too much; and which will prove to be a great deal better than that made of sour cider, vinegar, poke berries, and such stuff.

 Jesse Frye, Esq., is now engaged in superintending the building of his Gang Plows in Detroit. He says he has made great improvements in them—so that one plow will do all kinds of plowing.

MILLET.—It will answer to sow Millet until the middle of the present month, and especially so in case you desire fodder, and not seed.

Twenty-Five Dollars Premium.

The proprietors of the Prairie Farmer offer the above premium to the boy under 16 years of age who shall raise the largest number of bushels of Rutabagas or Flat-Turnips on one acre of ground the present season; the cultivation to be entirely by himself; the quantity of ground and amount of crop to be testified to by three responsible individuals. The amount of seed, time of sowing mode of cultivating, and time of harvesting to be furnished by the competitor. All reports to be sent in by the 1st of December, when the award and names of competitors will be announced.—Those who intend to compete will please give notice of such intention at once.

Literary Notice.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. — The publishers of this widely circulated and popular illustrated weekly journal of mechanics and science, announce that it will be enlarged on the first of July, and otherwise greatly improved, containing sixteen pages instead of eight, the present size, which will make it the largest and cheapest scientific journal in the world; it is the only journal of its class that has ever succeeded in this country, and maintains a character for authority in all matters of mechanics, science and the arts, which is not excelled by any other journal published in this country or in Europe. Although the publishers will incur an increased expense of \$8,000 a year by this enlargement, they have determined not to raise the price of subscription, relying upon their friends to indemnify them in this increased expenditure, by a corresponding increase of subscribers. Terms \$2 a year, or 10 copies for \$15. Specimen copies of the paper with a pamphlet of information to inventors, furnished gratis, by mail, on application to the publishers, Munn & Co., No. 37, Park Row, New York.

LATE FROSTS.—On Friday and Saturday nights, the 2nd and 3rd of June, there were severe frosts in the north part of the State, which cut down corn and potatoes, and all the tender garden vegetables. We think, however, that corn and potatoe crops will not be seriously injured.

BUCKWHEAT.—This can be sown as late as August. The middle of this month will do as well.

A New Enemy.

The first planting in many cornfields in this county, and in the counties near as has been destroyed by rats, which are so numerous that they can hardly be estimated. Thousands have been killed in a single cornfield. Dr. C. B. Ostrander, of Livingston county, soaked corn in water impregnated with arsenic, and scattered it over his corn lands. He gathered up two wagon loads of his dead enemy, and believed he could collect as many more. Where do these rats come from?—From information, we are rather of the opinion that they have now left, to a good degree, the cornfields; and that the second planting will not be disturbed by them.

Strawberry Beds.

“Rural,” in the the Chicago Press and Tribune says:

“Now and all of this month is a good time to set out new beds of this delicacy. The ground should be rich, finely pulverized, (use no manure;) and plants set before or after a shower, or in the evening, and in that case watered. Rows four feet apart and one foot in the row, where a cultivator can be used most of the season in their culture; next year they will produce a fair crop. Out of over forty sorts that we have tried for family use, we still adhere to “Early Searlet,” “Hudson,” and “McAvoy’s Superior.” The first is of medium size, very early, a good bearer, and of great value to the “Hudson” as a fertilizer, near which it should be planted. The “Hudson” is very valuable for preserving, as it is very firm, and also two weeks later. “McAvoy” is very large and soft, of mild, agreeable flavor, will not bear much handling and consequently unfit for market.”

The editor has these varieties of strawberry plants to dispose of.

SORGHO.—Sorgho seed, sown broadcast, makes most valuable fodder. It can be used for soiling stock, if desired; and it can also be used for pasturage for horses; and when they have eaten it down, take them from the field and it will soon sprout up again. No good reason can be given why cattle should be starved in the spring in this country—except it be that farmers are too thoughtless to provide feed for them, when it can be done with little labor.

CORN.—The northern dent corn will produce good crops here, even if planted at this time.

The Time to Cut Timber.

The experience of the writer of the following article can be made worth millions of dollars to the country. We copy from the *Madison Weekly Record*. Charles Howard is one of the most estimable citizens of our State.

MR. EDITOR.—I am an old man and an inhabitant, for the last thirty years, of your county, and for the benefit of my fellow beings I propose, from time to time, as opportunities permit to give you a few lines detailing some of my experiences in my journey of life. As I intend to say nothing of which I shall be ashamed or afraid, or which will be offensive to any person, I shall append my real name to my communications, in order that my readers may be the better enabled to place a proper estimate upon what I shall write.

I noticed in your issue, of May 14th some remarks relative to the time for cutting fence timber. Now on this subject I shall state a few facts which, if properly appreciated, will save millions of dollars to those who may lose by the unnecessary decay of timber. These are the facts: When I came to Alton, in 1829, I brought with me a little book called "The Farmer's Guide;" containing a short article on the time to cut timber. The author said the proper time was when the sap was up and the tree in full leaf, and gave his reasons for so believing, which were based on actual experience, forced upon him by his father, growing out of the following facts:

When he was a boy, of about ten years old, his father cut and prepared in the winter, sills for a new barn, to be built in the ensuing summer; so that they should not have the sap in them, when cut, least according to the notion of all, they would last longer by being cut when the sap was down. When summer came his father commenced to build, his barn, but he discovered that one of his sills had a decayed place in it and he did not like to put it in his barn; neither did he like to cut a new sill while the sap was up. After due consideration he thought he would rather risk it than the decayed sill, and accordingly cut a sill while the sap was up and put it in. Afterwards his father died, leaving the barn to him. Some forty years afterwards he found the other sills very much decayed, so much that it became necessary to pull the barn down, when to his surprise the sill which had been cut when the sap was up he found to be sound and hard in all parts, while the three sills which had been cut in the winter were in many parts too rotten for fuel.

Now I will give my experience on the subject. In the winter of 1829 I had

a few rails made to fence in a piece of ground, about two miles from Alton, and in 1831 I put them up; and in June of the same year I had a thousand more made to inclose a calf pasture. The workmen said they would not last long if I had them cut in the summer. I replied that I would risk it in that small number. And now for the result, and comparative durability of those cut in the winter and those cut in the summer. Those cut in winter were valueless in ten years, while those cut in summer are still sound and good, as any person may see by giving me a call, for, although I have moved several times since, I still have some of them, to remind me of old times, they having lasted twenty-eight years, and perhaps will last twenty-eight more.

Now, Mr. Editor, no man can calculate the millions of dollars which may be saved by cutting timber in the summer. I talked to several persons on this subject, but I had not the experience then that I have now, and gave it up on that account. I was greatly surprised when I learned that the Superintendents of our old State Railroads bound the contractors to have their timbers cut in the winter time, the result of which all know was its decay in a few years.

Posts should be set with the butt end of the tree upwards. Salt I proved to be a substance that creates moisture and causes timber to decay near the ground.

Hoping, dear sir, that these facts may have their desired effect. I am yours,
CHAS. HOWARD.

Items Worth Remembering.

To drive striped bugs from cucumber and squash vines, take an ounce of aloes and put it into a gallon of water, and syringe the plants.

Leaves of the elder bush placed about squash vines, it is said, will keep away insects from them. Perhaps so. The experiment is worth trying.

Mechi, of England, insists that thin seeding is best for rich grounds.

In Connecticut 1,300 bushels of Ruta Bagas have been grown on an acre of land.

A large kettle is said to make a cheap and excellent water trough for stock.

Mr. R. Sells, near Cleaveland, has twenty acres of strawberries.

Seize a favorable time late in July, just before a shower, if possible, to sow your buckwheat. A bushel of seed ought to sow two acres.

Hungarian Grass can be sown until the middle of July.

SUGAR MILL FOR SALE.—The Sugar Mill which was gotten up in this city, to demonstrate the value of the Chinese

Cane, for sugar and molasses, will be sold on reasonable terms. It does its work well, and can work up two hundred acres of cane if required. See advertisement, or write to the editor hereof.

The Cashmere Shawl Goat.

GALLATIN, Summer Co., Tenn., June 5, 1856.

To the Editors of the *Cultivator*
and *Country Gentleman*:

I have been thinking for some time of calling your attention, and that of the numerous readers of our widely circulated agricultural journals, to the recent importations of the Cashmere Shawl Goat, an animal as remarkable for the extreme fineness of its fleece, as for the enormous prices which it at all times commands in market. The first and only importations to the United States, were made a few years since, from Turkey in Asia, by Dr. James B. Davis, of Columbia, S. C., who resided some years in the East, and procured them under great difficulties, and at much cost and personal hazard. They have been recently introduced into Tennessee, by Messrs. Williams, Adams & Co., an enterprising firm of public spirited gentlemen, at Gallatin, Tenn., and are now on my farm near this place. The Company have a charter of incorporation granted by the last Legislature of the State, which is doing all in its power for the encouragement of the farming interests, having in successful operation, societies under the direct charge of a State Bureau, in the three grand divisions of the State, in connection with county societies in most of the large and populous counties. The fact is, Tennessee, so long behind hand, in that public countenance to these interests, is now far ahead of most of the older States in the encouragement and fostering of associations for the advancement of agricultural and mechanical arts.

Most of our readers are doubtless familiar with the history of the Cashmere Goat, and it is scarcely necessary to speak of the intrinsic value of the wool over that of any other fleeced animal known. The almost fabulous prices at which the shawls have sold, is known to almost every one, often approaching thousands of dollars each. One of the chief causes of its high value is the imperishable nature of the goods manufactured from the Cashmere wool—surpassing in durability of wear all other articles. The adaptation of the animal to our climate has now been fully tested, while its hardy and lively nature, its habits, and self protection from dogs and other enemies, are qualities which highly recommend them.—They can be raised advantageously, and thrive upon weeds and briars, &c., which are rejected by other animals. Not the least remarkable is the manner of gath-

ering the fleece, which is *pulled* instead of being sheared. I have recently weighed the fleeces from one, and it turned out *three pounds ten ounces*, (3 lbs. 10 oz.) semi-annually. The entire yield of the Company's stock has been engaged in the city of New York, at \$8.50 per lb., from which point it will be sent to Paisley in Scotland, for manufacturing into the Shawls. I beg leave to enclose a sample of my raising.

It may not be out of place in this connection, to remark, that great credit is due to Dr. Davis, of S. C., for the enterprise he exhibited in the introduction of the Goat to this country. He was at the time, in the employ of the Turkish Government at a salary of \$15,000, engaged in experiments upon the growing of cotton in the Sultan's dominions. He went out upon the recommendation of President Polk, to whom application was made by the Turkish Government, for the services of some competent Southern gentleman, familiar with the cotton culture. While there he determined to procure the Goat from its native wilds. The story of the journey would be too tedious for my brief letter, and I will merely add, that with an expensive outfit at Constantinople, a perilous journey for months, and the loss of many men and camels, he succeeded in capturing and carrying off eleven of the famous animals whose fleeces in the shape of shawls are so highly prized and coveted by the ladies of all civilized nations, and for which prices almost startling have been paid by the wealthy. On his return home Dr. Davis visited London, and exhibited his flock, at the British Museum, attracting great attention, an account of which may be found in the files of the *London Times* of that date. They were also afterwards exhibited at Paris.

After a careful examination of the whole subject, I cannot avoid the conclusion that the introduction of the animal will constitute an era in manufacturing, which cannot fail to result in great profits to those engaged in it.—There has not been a single instance up to this date, where the Cashmere Shawl Goat has brought at sale, less than \$1,000 each. RICHARD ALLEN.

CITY HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.—These are increasing in our State. There were exhibitions the present season at Springfield, Bloomington, Decatur, Galesburg, and Chicago. These exhibitions will undoubtedly advance the taste for Horticulture in all the places where they are held.

THE APPLE CROP.—The apple crop of Central Illinois will be very light.—Those who have apples will find a good market for them in the fall.

Premiums for Mowers and Reapers.

The Illinois State Agricultural Society, offer for the Mowers and Reapers at the State Fair—for the best Gold medals, and second best, silver medals.

SYCAMORE, June 22, 1859.

Sir:—You will please note in your publication that the DeKalb County Agricultural Fair will be held at Sycamore on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 6th and 7th, 1859.

The Fair grounds contain ten acres of land, enclosed with a board fence, eight feet high, on the banks of the Kishwaukee river. The Executive Committee are making extensive preparations for the accommodation of visitors, and from present appearances they feel confident of having and displaying the largest and best country Fair ever held in the State. The adjoining counties are expected to be present at the Fair and participate with us. Very respectfully,

W. H. BEAVERS, Sec'y.

Report on the Experiment to Test the Possibility of Transmutation of Wheat into Chess.

Some two years ago, a gentleman of Buffalo, N. Y., offered a premium of \$100 to any one who would give evidence satisfactory to a committee to be appointed for the purpose, that he had grown chess on the same stalk and head of wheat, or had found wheat changed into chess, in the natural course of growth. Col. B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, was requested to make the preliminary arrangements, and appoint the committee, who were to make the experiments. Accordingly, C. Dewey and L. B. Langworthy, of Rochester, and John J. Thomas, of Union Springs, were requested, and consented to act as said committee.

Dr. Samuel Davidson, of Greece, in Monroe county, an intelligent and successful farmer, proposed to establish the required proof of transmutation, provided his directions were followed. The committee agreed on the plan to be pursued, to prevent any mistake or deception, which was acceded to by Dr. Davidson, who it was further agreed should carry out the same experiment, upon the plan of his own suggestion, upon his own farm, as well as each member of the committee upon their farms.

According to the report, it appears that the four went into the experiment in good earnest, subjecting the wheat plants to all the mutilations of freezing and thawing, &c., which are the supposed necessary agents in this mysterious transformation; and yet each member reports, that from seed wheat sown, he was unable produce any other return than genuine wheat, with no resemblance or kindred to chess.

Dr. Davidson, who supposed he had been successful in a previous experiment in producing chess from wheat, in the present instance (as well as each member of the committee) adopted two precautions which were neglected by the Doctor in his former experiment. These precautions were: 1st.

To boil the earth, in which the wheat was to be sown, in water for two hours, till every seed in it should be destroyed. 2nd. To grow the wheat in pan, so that no seed should send up a stem from the earth below or around it.

These experiments not only satisfied the committee, but also Dr. Davidson, who was sanguine of success, that wheat cannot be transmuted into chess.

At the conclusion of the report, the chairman of the committee, Mr. C. Dewey, remarks upon the characteristic differences between chess and wheat as follows: "The head of wheat is short, thick and relatively close-fruited, or, as it is called, close-spiked; but the chess has no like form, but is a long diffuse pannide, the little stems of which bear the small and short separate heads of the seed, rising in clusters at several points along the stem; the small heads bearing a very different number of seeds from the separate spikelets of the wheat head. Add to this the difference between the seeds of wheat and chess, in their composition, matter and value. What a transmutation—the plant not yielding seed after its kind!"

We might add to this that there is such a wide distinction in the botanical development of the two plants as to render it impossible for a wheat seed or plant to produce a grain of chess. We hope that this carefully conducted experiment, carried out by four different persons, in different places, upon the plan laid down by one of the parties to the trial will set at rest all further discussion upon the subject.—*Valley Farmer*.

METAMORA, Ill. June 25.

Secretary of the State Agricultural Society of Illinois:

DEAR SIR:—The officers of the Woodford County Agricultural Society were duly elected on the 28th of May, and are as follows: President Jesse Hammers; Vice-President John J. Perry; Treasurer John W. Page; Secretary I. J. Marsh. Our Society is in a prosperous condition and all are expecting a good time at our fall fair. Any communications, books, or other valuables which you may be able to send us will be thankfully received, and rightly appreciated.

Direct to I. J. Marsh Secretary Woodford County Agricultural Society Metamora Illinois.

Respectfully &c.

I. J. MARSH,
Sec. W. C. A. S.

Editor of the Farmer:—To Mr. J. R. W.—In your last number. Can the underground pirates viz: the Gopher, be exterminated? Is there any remedy &c. In reply I send the following directions and will insure him a complete victory over the Gopher. R. arsenous acid gr. ij.

Directions. Take a potatoe of the size of an egg make three or four incisions and put in the arsenic. Dig down to the Gopher's hole and put in the potatoe, and cover up the hole—as many

holes as you find treat in the same manner—you will insure the death of one gopher for every potatoe.

ESCALAPIUS.

DELAVER, June 15, 1859.

"Press the Retreating Columns."

The operations of our farmers the past spring and summer, so far, have been a good deal like war. They entered the campaign in bad plight, having been severely handled by the last seasons. They commenced operations with a bad spring; but they went ahead in the finest spirits, met the enemy face to face, grappled him, and after a hard tussle, have got the better of him. The seed of the summer and fall crops was put in, in the worst weather. They have fought rain, water, mud, insects, high prices of seed,—with very tolerable success. They have now the vantage ground. We shall have good wheat, though not as much as we hoped.—Corn, our great staple, has passed through its greatest trials, and its beautiful colors are waving in every field. Our sappers and miners, under ground operators—potatoes, we would have you to understand, are making a glorious campaign. We are now promised old fashioned crops. The meadows are good—spring planted crops all generally promising. Now is the time to "*press the retreating columns of the enemy.*" See to it, that the Guerilla weeds are all cut down and destroyed, so that they shall have no chance to lasso the corn, the potatoes or other crops. Gather your wheat in time, and if the market opens at good prices, sell it and pay your debts. If you sow wheat the coming fall, you must "*press the retreating enemy in earnest.*" Plow your wheat ground as soon as you can. Bury your enemies, the weeds,—kill them—show no mercy. Have your ground in fine order for fall plowing; put in your wheat with the drill, and open drains to drive off the enemy of your wheat, in the shape of floods in fall, winter and spring, and see to it, as you desire a crop, as you wish to see the golden heads next July, waving in the breeze, that these drains are always open and work well.

We have no time to extend these remarks. But we say to you, farmers, boys, girls, all that there is a time very much like the crisis of your fate—on which your success in everything connected with your prosperity and happiness depends. Well improve that moment—"press upon the columns of the retreating enemy," and "you will all come out, right side up, with care."

WHITEWASH.—This article, as ordinarily made, rubs off the walls after it becomes dry, soiling clothes and everything coming in contact with it. This

may be obviated by slackening the lime in boiling water, stirring it meanwhile and then applying—after dissolving in water—white vitrol (sulphate of zinc) in proportion of four pounds to a barrel of whitewash, making it the consistency of rich milk. The sulphate of zinc will cause the wash to harden, and prevent the lime from rubbing off. A pound of white salt should also be thrown into it.

Scene Three Years Ago.

"You going to sell your wheat now—as soon as you can thrash it—at the first prices offered?"

"Yes, I think that is my best policy. The price I think is good—a dollar and a half. And besides, within the next three months the wheat will lose by sweating and drying ten per cent."

"Nonsense! If wheat is worth now a dollar and a half, it will be worth two dollars and more next spring, and you will not have to hurry yourself to have it thrashed out."

"NEXT SPRING."

"Well, neighbor, have you sold your wheat?"

"No—do you want to buy some?"

"Not exactly yet—what is it worth?"

"I am told they are offering one dollar for a first rate article."

SEEDING TIME.

"Neighbor, have you got any wheat to sell?"

"Yes, it has been falling all the while.—I want to sell. I suppose I shall have to give it away."

"I want fifty bushels for seeding. When I sold my wheat I anticipated buying May wheat for seed. Yours is May wheat, I believe?"

"Yes, it is May wheat. What is the price now of wheat? I want to sell or give it away."

"I don't want you to give it to me. I will pay the full market price for fifty bushels, which is seventy-five cents."

"Beelzebub take me! But you shall have it. I expect it will go down to fifty cents if I hold on."

How many cases can be named alike to this?

A PREMIUM FOR BOYS.—The proprietors of the *Prairie Farmer* offer a premium of \$25, to the boy under sixteen years of age, who shall raise the largest number of bushels of ruta bagas or flat turnips, on one acre of ground, the present season. The conditions are, that the cultivation is to be performed entirely by himself, and the work, amount,

&c., certified by three responsible individuals. The amount of seed, time of planting, mode of cultivation, and time of harvesting to be stated by the competitor. Reports to be sent in by December 1st, when the prize will be awarded to the successful competitor.

Buckwheat, Turnips, Hungarian Grass.

We want our farmers to have full cellars, full barns, and full purses this year. It will answer to sow Hungarian Grass, Sugar Cane seed, and corn, for making fodder, until the twentieth of this month—weather favorable. Buckwheat can be sown till the first of August; better, however, to sow it two weeks sooner. Sow turnip seed the middle of this month—so that if the fly cuts off the young plants, you can sow again; if they cut them off the second time, sow again—and sow again if they cut them off the third time. Don't let the little rascally insects worry you out. Good turnips have been raised from seed sown in the second week of August. Eastern and Ohio farmers make good crops of turnips from seed sown in corn.

SHEEP KILLED.—The Napa (California) Reporter says that a gentleman living near Santa Rosa, discovered, one evening recently, a considerable tumult among his flock of sheep. Going among them to discover the cause, he found a couple of them with their throats cut and dying. Imagining this destruction to be the work of wild animals, he cut them open and secreted a lot of strychnine in their bodies. The next morning he found the poison had done its work. Four panthers, measuring not less than eight feet from tip to tip, were discovered dead in a few rods of where the sheep had been left.

ZANTE CURRANTS.—The Washington Evening Star says:

The Patent Office is in receipt of a lengthy and interesting communication from Samuel B. Parsons, an experienced nurseryman, of Flushing, N. Y., who is now traveling in Europe, concerning the Zante currants. During his tour, he visited the Ionian Islands, and acquainted himself with the mode of cultivation, climatic necessities, and the method of drying and packing this fruit; as well as the diseases incidental to the plants, and the profits arising from its cultivation; of all, which he informs the Patent Office in detail. He also urges the importance of attempting the introduction of the fruit into this country.—The agricultural department of the Patent Office did, however, introduce a great quantity of the vines last year, which were widely distributed in the

Southern States and in California, and from which the happiest results are anticipated.

Evergreens--Sensible.

Hon. M. L. Dunlap has been into the the Pinerics of Wisconsin, for the purpose of procuring Evergreens. He writes to the Chicago Press and Tribune:

MANITOWOC, Wis., May 21, 1859.

We have to-day completed the taking up and packing of 6,500 evergreens, mostly of extra size. They have been grown in the open ground, and are of fine form. Over two hundred of the pines are from four to eight feet high. Should our experiment succeed in the removal of these larger trees, there will be no longer any excuse for not having every prairie home embellished with these beautiful conifers. We have been at considerable extra expense in taking them up and packing, and so soon as the matter of success is decided, we shall give the process to the public.—That nineteen-twentieths of all the evergreens, not of nursery growth, that are sold throughout the country, die, is a fact too well known to require any comment; yet year after year people continue to throw away money in the same direction. Some new aspirant of these worthy geniuses comes forward, "taken up with care," and two "greens" are again seen—the evergreen and the green purchaser. Gentlemen, why do you not make these gentry set out the trees, and receive pay for those only which live? This would put a stop to this petty swindling, and you would save a large amount of money and vexation.

Care of Young Peach Trees.

Those persons who planted out peach trees last spring, will find it greatly to their advantage to bestow a little extra labor upon them the first season. It is generally supposed that after a tree is well set it will take care of itself, but this is not the case. A young tree is like a young animal, and needs almost daily to be looked after until it becomes established, when an occasional visit may be sufficient. This is especially the case with the peach, which, though with good care is a vigorous grower, is quite fastidious in some of its habits. As the weather becomes warm, if showers are unfrequent, give them a pail of water as often as they need it, which may be three or four times a week. To prevent the too rapid evaporation of the water, a mulch of straw a few inches in thickness will be of great advantage. It is very strange that this most useful appliance is not used by all who plant trees, yet it is not. On "washing day," let the "bill of fare" be changed, and

give them a pail of soap suds. This liquid manure is very applicable to the peach. It seems to contain in solution and ready for use some important elements of food for this tree. Not one farmer in a hundred uses it, however, for any purpose, unless to make a wet spot for weeds, where it is allowed to run; not even those who read agricultural papers, and ought to know better. It is true, it is ready for use at a time when the "men folks" are generally out, and it would not be right to ask those who do the washing to apply it; but let them save it in a barrel, if nothing better is at hand, till night or next morning, when it should be applied. Young trees ought also to be protected from the borer; otherwise they will certainly ruin them. The eggs of this insect are laid in the summer months, on the tender bark, at or near the collar of the tree. When hatched, they eat under the bark, and often to a considerable distance along the trunk of the tree, destroying the sap-wood, and producing an effusion of sap or gum. Any one who has not noticed their depredations, should dissect a tree which they have destroyed in the part where they work. They will then have an *ocular* demonstration of their ravages. The only way to secure protection is to protect the parts from access to the moth which lays the eggs. A small cone of ashes or lime, about the trunk, is said to be a protective; others have succeeded by winding a band of straw about the trunk quite closely.—Perhaps the two combined might be better than either alone. There are probably other methods more or less effectual of which farmers must judge for themselves. What I wish, more particularly, is to induce farmers not to neglect using some of the most approved means at the proper time.

Another necessity in the care of a young peach tree, is to form a good head. This can only be done by judicious pruning; not all at once, but during the first season's growth. I have, of late, noticed, in several instances, good yearling trees from the nursery row, left to grow unpruned, except the removal of a few of the lower branches. All the side shoots, which grow in the nursery row, should be removed, and new and better ones grown to supply their places. Shorten back the main shoot one-third its length, also. Of the side shoots, which are thrown out in abundance, select three of the best ones for the main branches of the head, and remove the others. By a little watching and pinching, occasionally, you can secure a head to your liking. An old adage is: "A stitch in time saves nine." This same principle is equally true of a constant watching for any defects which may appear in the development of our

plants, and the application of a remedy before it is too late.—M. L. HOLBROOK.

How to Strike China Roses from Cuttings.

Here is something from "Mr. Glasse's Gardening Book," that leaves but little to say on the subject it treats:

"In the beginning of September get some pretty ripe shoots. You may know whether they are ripe enough, by the lower leaves coming off easily. Cut the shoots into pieces eight or nine inches long. With a sharp knife cut the lower end straight across, below a bud—draw the knife *from* the bud, not towards it. Cut the upper end slanting, just above a bud; leave on the two uppermost leaves—pull off all the others.—Take a pot about eight inches deep—put a few crocks in the bottom; over the crocks lay some old shreds, and then an inch of charcoal dust, or silver sand; fill up with one-quarter peat and half loam. With a round stick, make holes through the peat and loam, down to the charcoal. Put in the cuttings so as to leave the two leaves above ground, and press the soil down firmly. Give a watering with rain-water. Then plunge the pot on a mild hot-bed, or set in any warm place where it may be kept damp—put a hand glass over, and keep the sun off until the cuttings begin to push. Then give a little air at night, putting the hand glass on again in the day time. They will soon strike roots."

"Another way.—You may place the pots when filled with cuttings, in a shady border, with or without hand glasses, and they will strike in time. But the first is the quickest way."—*Gard. Chron.*

EXCESSIVE EATING.—In a letter to Lord Murray, Sydney Smith says:

"You are, I hear, attending more to diet than heretofore. If you wish anything like happiness in the fifth of life, you should pay more attention to the amount you eat and drink. Did I ever tell you my calculation about eating and drinking? Having ascertained the weight of what I did live upon, I found that, between ten and seventeen years of age, I had eaten and drank 44 odd horse wagon loads of meat, and drank more than would have preserved me in life and health. The value of this mass of nourishment is considered to be worth £7,000 sterling."

☞ The wheat harvest commenced two week since in Southern Illinois. As a general fact, the wheat is good, although there are some poor fields. The Southern wheat fields are not as large as those of the North; but the South can always succeed with winter wheat, when the seed is put in well; and the excellence of Southern Illinois wheat is undisputed.

A WOOL OPERATION.—The Utica N. Y. *Herald* says: T. S. Faxton, Esq., in behalf of the Globe Woolen Mills of Utica, is just starting on a Western tour for the purchase of 250,000 pounds of wool. The quality to be purchased will make the cost about a hundred thousand dollars. This indicates confidence in a continued improvement of the woolen manufacture.

A CURE FOR SHEEP-KILLING DOGS.—A Southern writer gives the following: "Select the stoutest and most vicious old ram in your flock, and shear him close; then get a small Manila rope thirty-five feet long, and tie one end around the dog's neck, and turn them into a ten acre field, well cleared of stumps, brush and corn stalks, and let them remain two hours, and if that old ram don't knock all the sheep killing propensities out of that dog, why then, as Sam Stonestreet would say, 'I hope I may never see chinkapin time again.' That dog will never have the courage to look a sheep in the face again."

OUR BEAUTIFUL WILD-FLOWERS.—Is amusement our pursuit? A love of our beautiful wild flowers will afford it in every walk we take. They are indeed scattered around us in the greatest profusion. Wherever we direct our steps, be it upon the lofty mountains, through deep ravines, in the solitary dell, or over the beautiful meadows, they meet us at every turn, and seem, as Rousseau says, to grow beneath our feet, as if to invite us to their contemplation. They are to be seen by every one,—would that I could add they are admired by every one.

Those that know nothing of flowers, save their beautiful colors and fragrance cannot possibly enter into the delight and enthusiasm of the botanist; who, knowing, that the commonest weeds are not beneath his notice, examines them with the greatest assiduity and interest. He learns their uses, and their connections with others spread over the entire globe. By the study of botany, our minds become stored with the most valuable information, and at the same time are led to "look through nature up to nature's God."—*Homestead.*

CARDS--Competition Defied!

WE have in operation the Celebrated "FIFTEEN" Press, which enables us to furnish a better Card than any office in Central Illinois, and at lower price, than any office in Central Illinois.

Orders from a distance will receive prompt attention.

BAILHACHE & BAKER,

Oct. 12.

PROPRIETORS.

COMMERCIAL.

St. Louis Market, June 29, p. m.

As usual, during the heat of summer and harvest, the produce and general trade of the city is quiet. Money is scarce, and Bankers have a busy time loaning; but most departments of trade are at a standstill until after harvest. Breadstuffs as well as provisions seem to be dull and declining everywhere. The favorable Wheat and Corn prospects all over the west cause a decline and dullness here in Flour, Wheat and Corn. Groceries and provisions rather quiet. Groceries somewhat improving, and one firm has sold an average of 100 bbls. of Sugar per day since Saturday, with other Groceries as follows: 400 bbls. Sugar at 5½¢; 50 bbls Union Refinery Molasses at 40¢ per gallon, 50 bbls New Orleans Refinery do. at 41¢; 200 kegs do. at 49¢, and 50 bags fair Coffee at 11½¢. From another dealer we got a sale of 50 bags prime Coffee at 12¢, and 50 bbls Union Molasses also at 40¢. The aggregate sales of the city, from first hands, has been small however.

Chicago Market, June 29, p. m.

The wheat market opened dull and heavy, and sales were made at a decline of 2¢ on yesterday's prices. In the afternoon, however, more favorable advices from Buffalo caused a reaction, and the market advanced ½¢ from the lowest point reached on 'Change. Today's transactions foot up about 45,000 bushels at \$1.22 to \$1.25 for No. 1 Red; \$1.03 to \$1.04½ for No. 2 Red; 87½¢ to 93¢ for standard spring, and 86¢ for No. 2 spring. Flour was very dull. Corn opened dull and drooping; but an improvement of 2¢ in New York caused an advance of 1¢ before the close. About 35,000 bu changed hands at 68 to 70¢ afloat for Canal; 68 to 69¢ for No. 1 in store; and 65 to 65½¢ for No. 2—the market closing very firm at the outside quotations. Oats were in better request, and a shade firmer. Rye sold at 90¢. Highwines quiet, with limited sales at 25½¢ to 25¾¢. Nothing doing in Provisions. Hides steady at 17 to 17½¢ for dry flint. Wool firm.

St. Louis Horse Market--June 25.

During the past week a moderate supply has been met by a good demand. At P. Wiles' Bazaar Stables, on Fifth-st., between Washington avenue and Green street, the following have been the sales:

Tuesday, June 21st, at auction, 1 draught horse at \$140; 1 fine buggy do \$135; 1 saddle do \$115; 1 wagon do \$109; 5 common horses from \$76 to \$96; 12 inferior and common do from \$39 to \$73; 1 mule \$90; 1 pair small do \$181. Friday, June 24, at auction, 1 fine saddle mare at \$180; 1 draught horse \$149; 1 four year old colt \$147; 1 do \$119; 2 wagon horses at \$114@115; 1 buggy mare \$130; 6 common and fair from \$75 to \$100; 8 inferior and common from \$67 to 72; 1 pr greys at \$227 50; 1 pair duns \$192 50; 1 small mule \$40; 1 pair do \$147.

At private sale during the week, 1 fine buggy horse and 1 brown draught horse at \$200 each; 1 buggy horse at \$165; 1 do at \$145; 1 pair sorrels at \$350; 4 wagon horses at \$130 each; 1 saddle horse at \$140; 1 pair dun ponies, at \$265; 2 draught horses at \$125 each; 1 saddle horse at \$115; 8 common horses from \$75 to \$100; 2 do at \$55@65. Thirty-five head left over.

St. Louis Live Stock Market--June 25.

Beef Cattle—The market has been well supplied with all descriptions. A few small lots have been shipped, but there has scarcely been any demand for shipment. The best quality retail to butchers at 8@9¢ nett; fair at 6 to 7½¢. There are a great many inferior Indian and Texas Cattle in the most of which sell as low as \$15 to \$25 per head. Many Cattle too poor for dog-meat are daily killed by certain butchers on account of their cheapness.

Hogs—Supply moderate, and prices from 6 to 7½¢ nett. **Sheep**—There has been a fair shipping demand, with prices from \$1.50 to \$3 per head. Supply only moderate. Shipped during the week 1200 head.

Cows—Inferior are very dull, and have sold as low as \$15. Good are not plenty, and are worth \$30@35 per head.

Veal Cattle—Good calves are worth from \$7 to \$10, inferior sell lower.

[By Telegraph.]

New York Market--June 30.

Flour steady, closed 10@15¢ better; sales 7,000 bbls at \$5.80@6 for superfine state; \$5.90@6.30 for extra state; \$6.10@6.60 do R. H. rye flour quiet at \$4.00 to 4.75.

Wheat dull and heavy. Sales 25,000 bu at \$1.50 for red western; \$1.65 for New Amboy, Ga.

Rye and barley dull.

Corn 86¢ for mixed western.

Oats better, at 42 to 43¢ per bushel.

Pork heavy and dull. Sales of 150 bbls at \$16 for new mess, and \$12.87 for prime.

Beef unchanged. Beef hams and bacon dull. Cut meats drooping.

Lard firm at 11 to 11½¢.

Whisky lower. Sales of 100 bbls at 25½¢.

New York Cattle Market--June 29.

BEEVES—The heavy decline of last week had the effect of checking somewhat the supplies, which are 454 head less, yet the number here—2892—is fully adequate for consumption, and prices in consequence are again lower. The quality was not so good as for some weeks past, buyers of the best grades finding it not very easy to make a good selection. The rates were from 8 to 10½¢ cents, and a few as high as 11@11½¢ cents; average, 9@9½¢ cents. The receipts at Allerton's were from New York, 335; Ohio, 569; Indiana, 182; Illinois, 865; Kentucky, 61; Iowa, 80; Canada, 17; and Michigan, 49. The conveyances were Erie road, 825; Hudson River, 1,294; Harlem, 23; Hudson River boats, 587. At Bergen, N. J., 279 head were sold to butchers, mainly for this market. The sales on Sunday were 57 head. The sellers were Mike Dutton, Edward Lockman, and Shuster & Seigle.

QUOTATIONS.

The following are the prices at which stock was sold:

BEEF CATTLE.

Prem. quality, per cwt.....	10 00@11 00
Prime do do	9 50@9 75
Ordinary do do	8 50@9 00
Common do do	7 50@8 00
Inferior do do	

VEALS—The market has not been subject to any fluctuation; a steady, moderate demand has prevailed at our quotations. The stock offering a fair assortment:

Prime quality, per lb.....	5½¢@6¢.
Ordinary, per lb.....	3½¢@5¢.

MILCH COWS—The sales go on very slowly, and prices are no better. Milkmen are not buying, except for urgent wants.

Best quality.....per head.....	\$50 00@70 00
Good qualities.....do ..	40 00@45 00
Fair qualities	30 00@35 00
Common qualities.....do ..	20 00@25 00

SHEEP AND LAMBS—A fair demand has prevailed, and we make no change in our quotations. Lambs command for prime fat stock 10@12 cents; dressed and very extra 13 cts. Sheep are selling at 4@5 cents per lb for live, and 8@10 cts for dressed, \$2.50@6 on foot. The sales have been by McGraw & O'Brien, 1,144 head for \$4,403 62; by Thos. C. Larkin, 942 head, for \$3,560 82; by R. H. Hume, 557 head, for \$2,143 80; and by James McCarthy, 1,459 head, for \$3,660 80.

Prime quality, per head (extra).....	\$5 50@6 00
Ordinary, per head.....	4 50@5 00
Inferior, per head.....	2 50@4 00

SWINE—We quote a decline of ¼@½¢ cents per lb. The warm weather and absence of any demand, except for fresh pork for city use, has operated in causing the reduction, as also the heavy decline in mess and prime pork during the past week. We quote prime western heavy corn fed at 6¼@6½¢ cents gross and do. still f-d 6@6½¢ cents; the closing rate of the former not over 6½¢ cents, and the latter not over 6¼¢ cents. Light hogs are nominal. At the Hudson River yards 3,010 head were received, viz: 1,624 by Erie road, 1,314 by Hudson River, 204 by Camden and Amboy road, and 297 by New Jersey Central. At the Western yards 2,702 were on sale, 1,220 by Hudson road, and 1,482 by Erie.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

	Beef.	Milch Cattle.	Cows.	Veal.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Swine.
This week.....	2893	246	1069	8 32	6212		
Last week.....	3347	217	1170	10142	7256		
Increase.....	29						
Decrease.....	454		101	1210	1044		

Sugar Mill for Sale!

THE SUBSCRIBER OFFERS FOR SALE

on reasonable terms, one of Hedges, Free & Co.'s Sugar Mills, together with all the fixtures necessary for carrying on the business. Apply to JAS. CAMPBELL. Springfield, July 1, 1859.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

CAN BE SUPPLIED AT A LOW FIGURE

on application to S. FRANCIS. July 1, 1859.

TURNIP SEED,

IN ANY QUANTITY, AT WHOLESALE

and retail, can be obtained at the seed store of Springfield, July 1. S. FRANCIS.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, &c.

THE UNDERSIGNED WILL FURNISH

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery, of excellent varieties, thrifty and fine, and twenty per cent lower than the published prices of the Rochester Nursery. Orders received. S. FRANCIS. Springfield, July 1.

VALUABLE MILL PROPERTY.

FOR SALE OR RENT.—THE WELL

known "Harmony Mills" in Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois, with adjoining property, viz: 7½ acres of land, 4 dwelling houses, good stable, out-houses, &c., will be sold or rented upon reasonable terms; if sold, a small part cash, the balance in 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. The above mill is situated in an extensive wheat growing country, has an extensive retail trade, and is in first rate running order, capable of manufacturing from 75 to 100 bbls. of Flour per day, and with good management will make from \$6,000 to eight thousand dollars per annum.

For further particulars inquire of Wm. T. Hazard, in St. Louis, Mo., or at the premises. June 24-d2m WM. FRAUDENAU.

PATENT MEDICINES.

WE ARE THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL agents for most of the popular patent medicines of the day, and will sell to the trade at card prices of the proprietors, viz:

FEVER AND AGUE REMEDIES,

Osgood's India Chologogue, Christie's Ague Compound, Smith's Tonic, Shellenberger's Antidote, Peruvian Balsam, Beeberine Mixture, Ayer's Ague Cure, Mott's Febrifuge Wine, Stephens' Ague Compound, Sappington's Pills and Western Tonic, or "The Old Stand By."

DIARRHOEA MEDICINES,

Jayne's Carminative Balsam, Crompton's Balsam, Hamilton's Balsam, Bene Plant, Brown's Ess. Ginger, Ford's Tonic Syrup, Blackberry Syrup, &c. Call at June 16 CORNEAU & DILLER'S.

DUNLAP'S NURSERY.**40 ACRES IN TREES AND PLANTS.**

IN ESTABLISHING A NURSERY AT
 In this place, we have done so with a view of making it a permanent business. We invite the patronage of those who wish to encourage home industry, and have a desire to beautify their grounds and fill their orchards with such plants and fruits as are adapted to our soil and climate; at the same time we disclaim any intention to make war on those who purchase of peddlers, or send east for their supplies, we are content to wait, as we look to these persons to make us a valuable class of customers, at no distant day. The well cultivated ground where their dead trees stand will be in excellent condition to do ample justice to live healthy trees, to which we may point with pleasure. Trees grown in New York, with highly stimulating manures, and being protected by snow in the winter, can hardly be expected to stand, unscathed, our changeable climate. It is our pride to give our customers satisfaction; this we intend to do on all occasions, as we can live by a fair and legitimate business.

Apple Trees, 5 to 7 feet high,.....20 cents each
 " " 5 years old.....\$16 per 100
 Dwarf and Standard Pears.....25 cents each
 " " Cherry.....50 " "
 Standard Plums.....50 " "

A General Stock of Evergreens, Ornamental Trees and Plants.

Catalogues had on application.
 Conductors on the Illinois Central Railroad have directions to leave passengers at the Nursery, 3 1/2 miles South of Urbana, when requested before leaving the last station, when on time. Farmers and tree planters of Central Illinois, will you encourage home industry?
 M. L. DUNLAP,
 West Urbana, P. O., Champaign Co., Ill.

July 1, 1859—1f

B. F. FOX,**Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware.**

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE
 One of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sickles, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snathes, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREH USE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Butts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. TRIMMINGS—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bits, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Steple's Morticing Machines, Files, etc.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Bullresses, etc.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, etc.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholm's Butcher's and other's, Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Cissors, Cutters, etc. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and doublebarrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Roseates, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Pouches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Dennison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Filling Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Couch Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Muslin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Bows, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belling, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.
 May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubby.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL RECEIVE
 Orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubby to be had from any Nursery in this State. The articles will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries.
 mchl
 S. FRANCIS.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Derc.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING
 is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style,

Corn Plows of two qualities.

Double and single Shovel Plows.

Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrow, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

Ox Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article.

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other sod, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or sub-soiling; and will do any kind of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and sub-soiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention.

Sept., 1858—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

All of said articles can be had on application to Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

Western Land Office.**T. S. MATHER.**

FOR THE

PURCHASE AND SALE OF CITY PRO-**perty, Farms and Unimproved Lands,****PAYMENT OF TAXES,****Collection of Claims.****Government Lands**

ENTERED WITH WARRANTS OR CASH IN ANY
LAND DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, MISSOURI,
MINNESOTA OR NEBRASKA.

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Office over N. H. Ridgely's Bank, West side Public Square,
 Springfield, Ills.

**B. B. LLOYD,
DENTIST,**

OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS
 him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Loose, J. S. Condit, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.
 June 7, 185.

EVERGREENS.

ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S.
 Francis for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitae, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

Neik Pine Strawberry plants at \$3 50 per 1000; and Hybrid Scotch Rhubarb at \$3 per 100.

Orders for the articles may be left with
 mchl

S. FRANCIS.

**FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES
SHUABERY, &c.**

S. FRANCIS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
 will receive orders for all description of trees from the DuPage County Nurseries, L. Ellsworth & Co., proprietors. These trees are well grown, healthy, and their genuineness is warranted. Orders for fall planting can be forwarded to them at any time from June till November.

Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

**F A I R B A N K S
PATENT****S C A L E S**

OF ALL KINDS.

Fairbanks & Greenleaf,

35 LAKE STREET, CHICAGO.

Sold in Springfield, by

E. B. PEASE.

may 1 y

**ELLIOTT'S
WESTERN fruit BOOK.****A NEW EDITION OF THIS WORK,**

THOROUGHLY REVISED,

Embracing all the new and valuable Fruits, with the latest improvements in their cultivation, up to January, 1859, especially adapted to the wants of
WESTERN FRUIT GROWERS.

FULL OF EXCELLENT ILLUSTRATIONS,

by

F. R. ELLIOTT, Pomologist,

Late of Cleveland, O., now of St. Louis.

Price \$1 25.

Sent by mail, post paid, to any part of the United States, on receipt of price.

A. O. MOORE & CO.,

Agricultural Book Publishers

140, Fulton-st., New York.

may 13t

H. G. HIBBARD.

JAMES M. HIBBARD

H. G. & J. H. HIBBARD,

GENERAL COMMISSION AND FOR-
warding merchants. Office, No 138 North Main Street,
 directly opposite Bank of the State of Missouri, St. Louis,
 Missouri. dtf

UHLER'S PLOWS

The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould
Board Plow.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,

Wm. Poffinbarger,

J. J. Short,

David Newsom,

John W. Beck,

Uriah Mann,

John Kavanaugh,

Philemon Stout.

Sangamon county, Jan 17, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by **JOHN UHLER,**
 Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.
 aug4-wlv

J. C. LAMB

MANUFACTURER OF

STEAM ENGINES AND MACHINERY

OF ALL KINDS.

CASTINGS OF IPON OR BRASS,**HORSE POWERS,****STEEL CLIPPER PLOWS****BALCONY RAILING AND FENCING,****Cast Iron Fronts, Window Caps and Sills****WATER WHEELS,****CRIST AND SAW-MILL GEARING,**

AND

PRAIRIE PLOWS,

OF ALL SIZES.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., June 20.

J. BUNN,**BANKER, AND DEALER IN EXCHANGE;****BANK NOTES AND COIN,****SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.**

Particular attention given to collections, and proceeds promptly remitted at the current rate of exchange.

REFERS TO

American Ex. Bank, N. York. Drexel & Co., Philadelphia.
 Abraham Bell's Sons. " George Smith & Co., Chicago
 Hamilton Bank, Boston. L. A. Benoit & Co., St. Louis.
 Price, Cuyver & Co., New Orleans.

If the fowls be suffered to roost out in the tree tops, winter and summer, and made to scratch for a living the best way they can, it could scarcely be expected they should prove thrifty and profitable. Vermin and inclement weather would blight expectations; neither are all locations favorable to raising poultry; there are many situations where

turkeys cannot be raised at all, and other lands of a heavy, wet nature where chickens will not thrive.

When fowls are confined to a narrow space it requires much pains to supply them with all kinds of food which they collect when running at large, and without care to supply their wants they will not be profitable.—When running as they please, they devour many grubs, eat gravel and various kinds of insects, and many other things which we cannot discriminate, though we look on while they select their food.

To render poultry profitable it is essential that great care and circumspection be exercised, not only in the selection of valuable breeds, but in feeding and rearing the young. If remiss in these points, no profit will result from the enterprise—as a general thing he will, to adopt an old adage, "Have his labor for his pains."

There is a vast difference in fowls, and while some are hardy and profitable, others are weakly, and scarcely pay their way under the most favorable circumstances, and the best management possible to bestow. It is always a judicious plan for the farmer to keep a number of fowls of some kind on his premises, as there is always enough waste or refuse grain to feed them; and beside, they are serviceable in protecting the crops, by destroying the numerous insect depredators, which in the spring and summer months prey so voraciously on the youthful and more tender plants.

When one is suitably located the keeping all kinds of fowls—hens, turkeys, geese and ducks—will be found profitable. It will bring many dollars in the course of the year and insure a constant and liberal supply of eggs and poultry for domestic use.

In some countries poultry forms a very important branch of rural economy. In warm climates generally it is used abundantly for food, being so readily prepared for the table, while large animals, unless immediately used, would become putrid, and spoiled. Roast and boiled chickens, eggs, pancakes, fritters, custards and puddings are not despicable luxuries in a thriving family. Scarcely a meal can be comfortably prepared without the use of eggs; even bread is much improved by beating up a raw egg with the water or milk with which it is mixed, and certainly it adds much to its nutriment, as one egg is said to contain as much as one pound of meat.

POULTRY HOUSE AND YARD.

Many persons commence house keeping, by getting a wife, and then a house. But our advice is, "first procure the cage, then the bird." Previous, therefore, to getting a stock of poultry, provide for them a house. This will be found a most necessary arrangement, as on many occasions it is highly necessary they should be confined, as at planting time, or at some other periods when they are particularly destructive; close confinement in a room or shed would soon make them sick and interrupt their laying, but a house and yard, on the plan we are about to describe, would answer every convenience and be found often very advantageous in securing the eggs of such fowls as had contracted a habit of laying away from the house

and boxes and endanger the loss of the eggs.

If it is desired to confine fowls to a yard for all or a portion of the time, it will be indispensable to their health and productiveness to provide for them suitable accommodations. These need not be expensive, but the fixtures should be efficient and complete so as to secure the safety of the fowls. The houses and yards, therefore, must be constructed according to the purposes of the proprietor.

As to fowl houses and other circumstances minute directions are almost impertinent.—The three grand requisites are cleanliness, dryness and warmth. Those who wish for anything on a large scale will find plenty of plans and descriptions in the "American Poultryer's Companion," so that if they choose they may lay out as much money in a hen house as would build a comfortable cottage. But some people have little choice in the matter—they must take or adapt such conveniences as they find around them.—The fowls themselves are not very fastidious; but one may be sure that the more we attend to the comforts of our domestic animals the more they will reward our trouble.

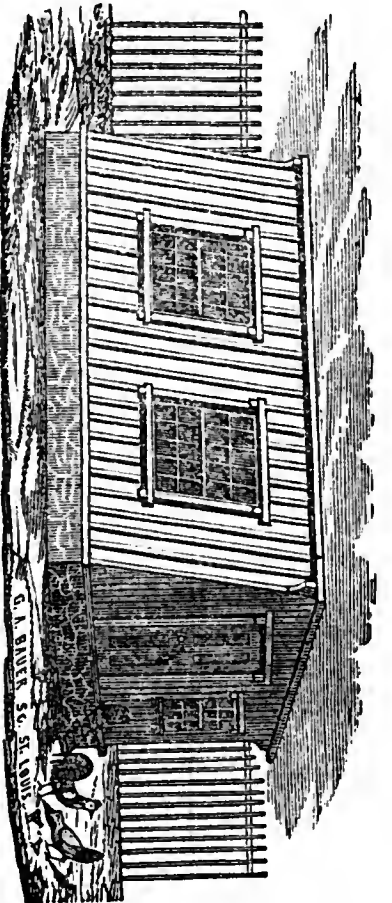
Whatever number of fowls may have been selected for keeping, provision must be made for their comfort and safety. Those kept on farms, lead, in many respects, a happy life. They have good and plenty of room, and generally with no lack of food. They wander about the farm yard, the orchard and the lawn, visit the adjoining fields, travel over the pasture, through the lanes, troop about the barn, and enjoy total freedom.—To the advantage of pure air they usually have that of pure water, and the opportunity of varying their diet, by picking up insects and their larvae; and a store of pebbles, gravel, old mortar, and other calcareous matter, which they require, is always at their command. So far they lead a comfortable, apparently happy and natural life; but how are they housed at night? In many instances, in a proper and well built poultry house, with porches judiciously arranged, and with boxes lined with straw, for the laying and sitting hens; but often in places utterly unfitted for them. For instance, numerous flocks of fowls will be lodged under the roof of some large, open shed, above the cattle, wagons or carts, which receive abundance of their droppings; others take shelter in the barns, stables, cider mills, pig pens, out-houses, on the waggon, cart, or any other implements which may be stored there, while not a few may be found roosting on the branches of some favorite tree. This want of order cannot be too strongly condemned, as hens having no proper laying places, select such situations as chance may offer them, not unfrequently in obscure places of concealment, so that their eggs are devoured by vermin or are lost. This, to say the least, is a slovenly mode of keeping fowls. It offers a temptation to thieves, and the health of fowls cannot be improved by their being soaked all night long in a drenching rain, or having their feet frozen to the branches. There is no difficulty in accustoming any fowls to regular housing at night.

Those who wish to be successful with fowls should have a distinct building, and yard,

with a warm aspect, facing the south or east as the morning sun is congenial to them in cold weather. The dryest and warmest soils are best adapted to the successful rearing and breeding domestic fowls, especially chickens; and to be attended with the greatest success and least trouble, some expense and great precaution will be required.—Fowls endure severe cold much better than moisture. To unite all the advantages desirable in a poultry yard, it should be neither wet nor exposed to cold winds. There should, if possible, be running water in the yard, and under cover should be placed ashes and dry sand, where they may indulge in their natural propensity of rolling and basking or bathing themselves. Gravel, broken shells, crushed bone and old lime mortar should always be placed within their reach.

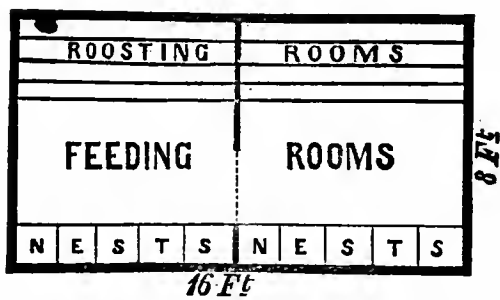
Having settled all preliminaries, we propose now to give the elevation and ground plan of a very cheap and pretty model of a poultry house, which can be made to accommodate from twenty-five to one hundred fowls:

The posts in front should be twelve feet high; the back posts four feet shorter. This will give a good pitch to the roof, and shed rain readily. It may be of shingles, of boards, battened, or what is still better, both for warmth and coolness, thatched with straw. The sides and ends covered with boards running up and down and the joints covered with battens; but the better plan is to use inch and a quarter plank, tongued and grooved,

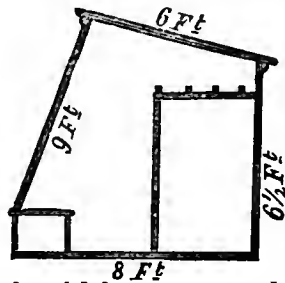


POULTRY HOUSE.

which will secure more warmth. It will be observed that the top of the front wall inclines backward. This is for the purpose of imparting greater heat, by obtaining more power from the rays of the sun in winter. Deciduous trees should be placed in front, to protect it from the scorching rays of the summer's sun. In the end is a door for entrance, and a small one for the egress and ingress of the fowls. This door should be three feet from the ground, with steps outside and inside for the fowls to pass up and down. If there is danger of the fox, skunk, weasle or rats, remove the outside ladder, and make a platform for the fowls to alight on, by hanging the door with hinges at the bottom, and when let down for a platform, let it rest on a bracket. There should be a small window with slat blinds at each end, for ventilation. The internal arrangement is so clearly exhibited in the annexed plans, that a description or explanation is deemed necessary.



NESTS.—It is not essential to success that the nests should be on the ground, though we always so construct them for the use of



some of our hens, in conformity with the general observation, that hens when left to their own choice usually do so. But whether on the ground or raised somewhat above it, they should be warm and partially secluded.

The hen likes privacy, and if left to follow her own natural instincts, will seek some shrubby thicket, tuft of grass or rank weeds, if out of doors, or in the manger of a shed—in short, almost anywhere, if she can escape the gaze of man or animal. To humor this propensity, we propose to lattice the front of the nest boxes, with small strips of lath, which not only give them *apparent* secrecy, but admit air, so desirable in hot weather. Why we give preference to latticed fronts to close boxes, is by reason of the constant circulation of air going on through the interstices. This has much more to do with the comfort of the hens, and the perspective of "counting the chickens before they are hatched," than many people are aware of.—In nine cases out of ten laying and sitting boxes are too *hot, close and dry*. Draw a comparison, if you please, between them and a stolen, or if you will, more natural nest, in the open air. Which of the two are notorious for producing a numerous family of healthy chickens.

The style and form of the nest boxes must be determined by the size and kind of fowls for which they are designed. If for large Asiatic fowls, the boxes must be made low and easy of access, so that the hens will not be obliged to fly up to get into them. The boxes also should be shallow, so that the hens need not hop down from the rim, as in that case they are liable to break the eggs. Sometimes nests are fixtures built against the wall, not unlike pigeon holes on a large scale. The first or lower tier may be on the ground, and each apartment should be eighteen inches square and two feet high, suitable for the larger sized variety of fowls. The next or second tier may be twelve by thirteen inches, and eighteen inches high. This tier, being six inches narrower, may be set back six inches on the lower one, by which a ledge is formed for the hens to alight when seeking their nests. If more tiers are added, narrow shelves may be placed in front of each box, with a ladder for ascending to each tier. The opening should be zigzag, not over one another. This form of nests will admit of being extended to any length or number of tiers required; the top sloping at an angle of forty-five degrees to prevent the fowls roosting on it. There is, however, one objection to these tier nests, which we have noticed in our experience.

It is this: when a sitting hen has left her nest to procure her food, drink, etc., one of the laying hens would espy the eggs, pop in and deposit her egg. In the meantime the hatching hen would return and discover her nest occupied, and finding it no easy matter to eject the intruder—for possession, with hens, like men, is considered nine points of law—would seek the first nest she could find vacant and settle herself on them very contentedly. The consequence was the other hen, after depositing her egg, would leave the nest, and the eggs would cool and spoil. There is another difficulty. If vermin should make their appearance, as they often do while the hen is sitting, there is no sure way of getting at them or cleaning the nests. To remedy this in regard to the vermin, we would recommend the nests to be made in the form of shallow drawers in place of the boxes. These may be inserted into the spaces. By this arrangement, if the nests become foul, and require cleansing, they are easily removed and freed from those most annoying pests, hen-lice, when occasion requires.

Having disposed of the house, both external and internal, we will now proceed with the yard. The size of the yard may be made to suit the fancy or convenience of the owner; but, from our experience, the larger the better, not less than one acre, well covered with grass, to every hundred fowls.—Here is one great cause of failure in rearing poultry in inclosures. We have often noticed on large farms small, seven by nine pens, without grass or any green thing. Under such circumstances, it is no wonder their fowls would sicken and die.

The yard should, if possible, be of a gravelly or sandy character, and a little sloping, that it may be dry, as moisture is a most destructive enemy of poultry. The yard should be well fenced; close on the north side; also, for three feet all around, and four feet of pickets, which will make it seven feet high. Sheds to protect the fowls from storms; should be erected against the north or west fence, sloping back or outwardly. If there is a bank or side hill on the north side of the lot, place the house there. To make it warm in winter and cool in summer, excavate the bank sufficient to cover the back wall, which should be of stone eighteen inches thick and laid in mortar. If the bank be not very steep, the bottom may be sunk three or four feet in front. The back wall may be from nine to ten feet high, and the roof may pitch both ways, or shed at the ends, presenting a gable end in front, which may be of glass or not, to suit the notions of the proprietor.—If the roof is of shingles, let the spaces between the rafters be lined and filled in with tan, saw dust, or fine chareoal; but a good thatched roof would be preferable. The internal arrangement may be similar to the one heretofore described.

As we have a house, yard and accommodations prepared, we will now attend to our breeding stock. Without allusion to any particular variety, we will enter upon some general remarks in this department. In choosing stock select young fowls, and, if possible, from such as have been remarkable for good laying and thrift. After one season you will be able to select eggs from

your own stock of such desirable qualities; they may be attained by care and time, as well as any peculiarity of plumage you may fancy. Good fowls may be of any color, but to have none but good and handsome ones will require time and attention in selecting; and as they are no more trouble or expense than inferior ones, they are worth picking for. There are some fowls much more destructive than others, always scratching and restless—we have often seen and heard it remarked; those who understand these matters will confirm it. Selecting is a matter of some importance, since the quality of your poultry may be much improved by attention to this subject.

First will come their disposition for laying. Some may be found to produce many more eggs in a given time than others.—The best step to attain this object is to raise pullets from hens conspicuous for this quality, preferring those of the same shape and color as the hens. For laying properties, the following are noted: Black Spanish, Hamburg, black Poland, and all the family of Bantams. But for all purposes, laying, quality of flesh, hardihood, and good breeders, give me the common Dominique fowl, which may be found in most all yards through the country. The figure below is a fair representation of the cock:



SHAPE AND SIZE.—There is much more in this than at first appears; good dressed fowls, killed and prepared for market, will look like most other perfect things—better for seeing more of them. And here the Dorking fowl stands pre-eminent. A long necked, long legged, thin made fowl can scarcely be made fat, and then will not look as well as the plump, square and full breasted ones with short legs; neither are they so quiet and thrifty. They do not sit so steady but their long legs are active in the operation of searching out potatoes, fresh planted corn, and other seed—habits seldom required or desirable.

FATTENING.—Of all modes the best for obtaining flavor and nutriment is a run at large, with abundance of food. On a large farm there will be sufficient food to fatten a great number from the waste and droppings of other stock of food that would otherwise be lost; and here by a little care may produce a handsome sum in cash, and bountifully supply the house with eggs and chickens; and who does not like to see a variety of pretty fowls about a place, enlivening the retirement, and, by their early summons,

awakening the drowsy husbandman from his quiet rest to brush with dewy steps the waving field? Who can stand unmoved and see these active, lively creatures, as at the early dawn their doors unclose, rushing headlong forth and gladly clapping their wings and heralding the approaching day to heaven's great concave; then sipping the pearly drops of early dew, look up to heaven, and seem to say: "O man, remember thy Creator!"

Barn-door fowls are generally considered the best, and they usually are so, for they not only live on the best food, but they have the advantage of free fresh air and exercise; and in harvest and threshing time the great abundance makes them extremely fat. The nearest approach to this manner of fattening will be the best. The plan of cooping them up for a week or two for the purpose of giving them extra food, does not improve them. Five or six weeks is necessary to make them fat. The first week or two they pine and lose flesh from the confinement.

VARIETIES.—The common barn-yard fowl is a native of the east and warm climates. They are domesticated everywhere, and may be found in great variety of color, shape and size; being a mixture of many varieties, and generally raised without care or selection, there will consequently be many without value, either for eggs or flesh, and no dependence can be placed on their produce, even if good individuals are selected, as it will require a number of generations to insure full blood as to quality, size, color, etc. To obviate many of these disadvantages, the economist will select and carefully continue one or more of the following breeds; still continuing to select even from these the best individuals for breeding stock.

POLAND FOWL.—These, like the brave people from which they derive their name, are every way commendable; and we recommend them and place them first in the "chicken fancy." Good layers, very elegant in form, beautiful in plumage, poor and rare sitters, chickens rather delicate—require warm housing—good for the table.—They are admirable layers. By many they are mostly called "everlasting layers."—Many will lay every day for eight months, and sometimes every other day during the year, except in moulting time, seldom showing any inclination to sit. Their eggs are large, of a rich flavor, and with thin shells. They are a very domestic, quiet fowl, neither quarrelsome or mischievous, and will fat well, coming to a good size and weight.—Their flesh is high colored, but peculiarly rich flavored and juicy. They are hardy, enduring well the extremes of cold and heat, although they are not so thickly covered with feathers and down as some other kinds are.

SPANISH FOWLS.—The true Spanish fowls are a valuable variety. Their plumage is black, with bluish tints; very large combs, with white flesh or skin round the eyes; dark legs, rather long, and long bodies. They lay the largest of hen's eggs, and are very prolific; no sitters; chickens tolerably hardy, slow at feathering; good for the table, as their flesh is white and delicate. Should be well kept.

DORKING FOWLS.—This is a valuable and

favorite variety, but the true breed is rather scarce. It takes its name from a town in Surry, (England,) where the bird is supposed to have originated, and where they still are reared in great perfection and plenty. This is the sort usually made into capons. They are of good, rather large size, long bodied, full breasted; the flesh is good flavored, juicy, and of a yellow or ivory shade; somewhat delicate in constitution, and seems to thrive best on warm soils; eggs large and well flavored, but not abundant; fair mothers; chickens not so easy to rear as some other breed; splendid table fowl, large and plump in body, wants liberal keep and warm housing. They fat well, are handsome alive, and show delicate, white and advantageous when plucked and dressed for market.

GAME FOWL.—The game breed is rather small, of delicate and genteel shape, elegant and compact in appearance, hardy in constitution, excellent caterers for themselves, good layers of delicious eggs, excellent mothers and rearers of chickens. The flesh white, and superior in richness and flavor to all others. Their eggs are small, fine shaped, and delicate, with dark or yellowish shells. But these are not fowls for the farm. They are extremely quarrelsome—even the chickens will fight till they are stone blind, before they are fairly feathered. They lay very early in the season and thus become useful as a cross with other varieties.

BOLTON GREY, OR SILVER PENCILLED HAMBURG FOWL, is a nice, plump, hardy bird, rather small in size, excellent layers, and of fine plumage. They are generally esteemed first rate egg producers, poor sitters, of course poor mothers, but can hardly fail to be a satisfactory and desirable every day fowl.

COCHIN CHINA FOWL.—Hardy, abundant and early layers of excellent eggs, of a dark cinnamon or a dark buff color, rather small in proportion to the size of the fowl, large and plump in body, require liberal keep and warm housing. This will apply to the Chittagongs, Brahmas, etc. Valuable to cross on the common fowls in the country, giving them more size, and improving their laying qualities.

SHANGHAI FOWL.—There is a great deal of difference in the stock of this breed.—Some are coarse, loose jointed, crane-like concerns, with legs long enough to step over a pretty high fence. These are a disgrace to the race. Some persons who have had fowls of this description, have, after a short trial, discarded them, and think justly there is a great deal of "humbug" in the "hue and cry" about fancy poultry. Those who are procuring Shanghai fowls to breed upon, should be sure to choose those that are short-legged, free from feathers, if possible, and plump in form, from stock that breeds uniform in size, shape and plumage.

The Asiatic fowls, in character, are quiet, peaceable, good layers, careful steady sitters, good mothers, and what is very important, the chicks are hardy, easy to raise, and less liable to be affected by disease than those of many other breeds, particularly the Spanish, Polands, and Hamburgs.

BANTAM FOWL.—The bantam is a splendidly beautiful variety. They are of every

color, some mottled with many colors, but the most common are white. They are elegantly formed; flesh delicate and a good substitute for young chickens when the latter cannot be obtained. The common are feather-legged; but the best and most approved sort are clean-legged, very small, weighing from twelve to sixteen ounces, yet producing an egg very near the size of a common hen, very rich and fine flavored. They are good sitters, good nurses, very tame and domestic and will outlay all other varieties, the Hamburg perhaps alone excepted. They eat but little, and will lay and thrive cooped up in any small yard where there is a little sun and dry ashes. These are the fowls for city and village yards and gardens.

Their appearance is very grotesque, the cock strutting with a very upright and proud gait, and will attack not only the largest of his species, but even a turkey cock. We have known these little things prosper and lay all through the winter in a village cellar; light of course being indispensable. They are least of all destructive to a garden, and as we have before observed, will produce, for a *given quantity of food*, by FAR the greatest number of eggs.

HATCHING.—When the determination of the hen to sit becomes fixed, there is no need to indulge the first faint indications immediately. Let her have the nest she has selected well cleaned and filled with fresh straw. The number of eggs to be given to her will depend upon the season, and upon their and her own size. The best plan is not to be too greedy. The number of chickens hatched is often in an inverse proportion to the number of eggs set. We have known only five chicks to be obtained from fifteen eggs. Hens will in general cover from eleven to thirteen eggs of their own production.

Three weeks is the period of incubation of the common hen. Sometimes when she does not sit close for the first day or two, or in early spring, it will be some hours longer; more rarely in this climate, where the hen is assiduous and the weather is hot, the time will be a trifle shorter. But what are we to do with the hatched chicks, is a natural question. Let them remain quiet with their mother from twelve to twenty-four hours, to gain strength from the warmth of the body of their mother. Then place them with their mother in a roomy, boarded coop in a sheltered position on a dry sunny spot, is the best position for them during the first month. Keep them from cold and storms, which are death to them. As to food, let them have dry crumbs of bread and a hard boiled egg, chopped fine, for the first few days; then coarse ground corn, which we have found to agree well with them. Fine Indian meal made into a paste and fed raw is not good for them. Many chicks and young turkeys have suffered from the effects of that kind of food; but when boiled will not injure them. Sloppy matters are better avoided till the little things are old enough to eat a few grains of barley or wheat, which they are enabled to do before it is usually suspected; afterwards they do no harm. Meat and insect dirt are almost necessary. Raw vegetables chopped fine are grateful to them. But whatever be the bill of fare, the meals must be given at

short intervals—as much as they can swallow and as often as they will eat.

The period at which they are left to shift for themselves depends upon the disposition of the hen. Some will continue their attention to their chicks till they are nearly full grown; others will cast them off much earlier. In the latter case, it may be as well to keep an eye upon them for a few days, till they have established themselves as independent members of the fowl community; for chickens in this half grown state are at the most critical period of their lives. They are now much more liable to disease than when they were apparently tender little weaklings crowded under their mothers' wings. It is just before arriving at this point of growth, that artificially hatched chickens are so sure to fail, whatever be the substitute for the mothers' care. Mere incubation has long ago been performed artificially with success in various ways. The mere hatching deserves little credit, however ingeniously it is done. Any one at any time of year can effectually complete that process by means of a spirit lamp and a sand bath in a warm room. But to rear them is the difficulty that has not yet been surmounted in this country.

Wire Vermin Proof Corn Crib.

Mr. Editor:—Allow me to call the attention of your readers to a wire corn crib, gotten up by me, and now in process of being patented. This crib is very simple and cheap, and durable and will allow the drying of corn much more perfectly than any timber crib.

When we reflect that the corn crop of the U. S. amounts in the aggregate to about 700,000,000 bushels annually, and that it needs careful preparation and drying in cribs to be marketable at its fullest value, and that where the largest proportion of it is produced, timber is scarce and lumber high, it will be seen that a cheap crib constructed of wire is a valuable addition to our agriculture.

Nearly or quite 75,000,000 bushels will be grown the present season in this State, and in addition to the more perfect curing, we have to protect it from the ravages of the vermin which infest our cribs. This can be fully and perfectly done by my crib, and any farmer can build one, as the wire costs but \$8 or \$10 for a thousand bushels or more, and if he has timber of his own, this is all he need to pay out for a crib 7 feet wide by 32 feet long. I can buy here all the material for a crib holding one thousand bushels for less than \$20.

I request all farmers desiring further information in regard to the crib to send me their names, and I will send them the plan for a crib which will cost less than it will save in a single year, from vermin, etc. The cost will not be more than a couple of dollars for the right—according to the size of the farm.

Any one wishing to buy territory is invited to correspond. This device af-

fords the carpenter and jobber an excellent opportunity by buying a small territory for the exclusive supply of these cribs to the resident producers.—Send on for cuts and descriptive circulars to

W. H. GARDNER,
Amboy, Lee County, Ill.

Will you Ever Learn?

Editor of the Farmer:—I have lately traveled over a section of country from Carrollton to the south part of Christian county; and took some pains to notice the crops on the line of my trip. On the rolling lands on the route, the corn, wheat and other crops look, generally, well. But there is a large portion of the route passing over level lands, the soil of which contains a good deal of clay, and the sub-soil even more.—Where this is the case, the ground is dry, baked, and the crops are, without exception, in a bad way. The wheat was drowned in the winter and spring; the early spring crops were sown when the grounds were in bad order; and corn was planted in adhesive mud, which by subsequent rains, and hot weather, has become baked and impervious to gentle rains, and the roots can scarcely be reached by atmospheric air.

These lands, every year, in their present condition, are likely to be affected in the same way.

Now, unless a new mode of cultivation is adopted and a new system of rendering these soils friable and cultivable, is gone into—the occupants may make up their minds to fail in making good crops four years out of five;—and they probably had better sell their farms for what they can get for them and go where there is no need of draining land, or of giving it but little cultivation to make their "hog and hominy." But those locations will be found to be scarce.

I, however believe, that farms on the tract I have described, can be made productive and profitable. This can be done by labor, governed by good sense. For corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, the rolling grounds should only be used. Mellow grounds should be worked when it can be done, should be drained and put into grasses for pasturing and meadows.

Here let me suggest that we should thoroughly try the value of all the grasses that succeed in other States.—We know that clover, timothy and blue grass will do; but few farmers know the value of red top on low flat lands.—In the eastern States, this grass is sown with great advantage on such land. Perennial rye or ray grass, sometimes called English blue grass, has succeeded in some localities better than either of the named grasses. Philip Wineman, Esq., on Sugar Creek, who has had it

for the last four years, speaks of it as most valuable for pastures—for early and late feed, furnishing a very large amount of feed, twice the amount of blue grass—and also that it is a valuable grass for hay.

Some other favorable facts are to be considered in reference to grass farms. They do not require the amount of labor that a grain farm does—and I am confident that they are more profitable than grain farms.

I would be glad to hear from my brother farmers in regard to the profitability of changing our grain crops for grass crops. It is a subject of great importance to our farmers. M. S.

Remarkable Fountain in Florida.

Taking a narrow path, we crossed through some dense underwood, and at once stood on the banks of the Wakulla Spring. There was a basin of water one hundred yards in diameter, almost circular. The thick bushes were almost growing to the water's edge, and bowing their heads under the unrippled surface. We stepped into a skiff and pushed off. Some immense fishes attracted my attention, and I seized a spear to strike them. The boatman laughed, and asked me how far below the surface I supposed they were. I answered, about four feet. He assured me they were at least twenty feet from me; and it was so. The water is of the most wonderful transparency. Dropping an ordinary pin in the water—forty feet deep—we saw its head with perfect distinctness as it lay on the bottom. As we approached the centre, I noticed a jagged, grayish limestone rock beneath us, pierced with holes; one seemed to look into unfathomable depths. The boat moved slowly on, and now we hung trembling over the edge of the sunken cliff, and far below it lay a dark, yawning, unfathomable abyss. From its gorge comes forth, with immense velocity, a living river.

Pushing on just beyond its mouth, I dropped a ten-cent piece into the water, which is there one hundred and ninety feet in depth, and I clearly saw it shining on the bottom. This seems incredible. I think the water possessed a magnifying power. I am confident that the piece could not be seen so distinctly from a tower one hundred and ninety feet high. We rowed toward the north side, and suddenly we perceived in the water the fish which were darting hither and thither, the long, flexible roots, and the wild, luxuriant grass on the bottom, all arrayed in the most beautiful prismatic hues. The gentle swell occasioned by the boat gave to the whole an undulating motion. Death-like stillness reigned around, and a more fairy scene I never beheld.

So great is the quantity of water here poured forth, that it forms a river of itself, large enough to float flatboats with cotton. The planter who lives here has thus transported his cotton to St. Marks. Near the fountain we saw some of the remains of a mastodon which had been taken from it. The triangular bone below the knee measured six inches on each side. Almost the entire skeleton has been sent to Barnum's Museum.

THE DAIRY.

HOW GOSHEN BUTTER IS MADE.

The Southern Planter contains the following account of the process of making butter in Goshen, from the pen of Mr. Denniston, a practical butter maker :

The cellar, where the milk is kept, should be cool, well ventilated, and clean. The milk ought to be strained into pans containing ten or twelve quarts each. If the weather is very warm, the pans ought to be set on the cellar bottom—otherwise on shelves. The milk ought not to be churned until it becomes thick, or loppered—the milk and cream are then churned together. Some dairymen skim off the cream and part of the milk, and churn that, but Goshen butter is churned from the *milk and cream*. The churn used is the common “dasher churn,” driven by dog, horse or hand power, according to the size of the dairy. The churn may be half or two-thirds full with milk; and a pailful of cold water added before starting to churn. In cold weather, warm water is put in. The churning should be with a slow, regular motion—and to make good solid butter, will take from one hour to one hour and a half; before the churning is done, another pailful of water ought to be put in. When the butter is done, take it out, wash it through one water in a large tray, throw the water out, then salt the butter, using about one ounce of pure Liverpool (Ashton) salt to each pound of butter. Work the salt through the butter—put it in a cool place and let it stand an hour; then work it carefully over, and set it aside for five or six hours—work it over again, and set it aside in the same cool place until the next morning, when it is packed. In working butter, great care ought to be taken to *work out all of the milk*—but not to work it too much, so as to break the grain, and make it “salvey.” If any milk is left in, the butter will *soon become rancid*; and if worked too much, it will be “greasy” or “salvey,” and not solid. Butter worked just enough will be *solid—sweet—yellow*—and the drops of brine on it will be as “*clear as crystal*.”

Orange county butter is packed in white-oak firkins—the staves selected so as not to leak the brine; the firkins will weigh about eighteen or twenty pounds empty. The firkins are soaked in pure cold water for some days before using, by being filled with the water—they hold from eighty to one hundred pounds of butter. When the firkin is full, a linen cloth is placed over the top of the butter, and on this cloth a lay of salt an

inch in depth is laid, made a little damp with cold water. The butter stands until marketed; then the salt and cloth are taken off, a fresh cloth wet with brine put on, and the firkin headed up. Great care should be taken to have the firkins kept perfectly clean. The outside ought to be as bright as when turned out by the cooper. No leaky firkin, or any that will filter the least particle of brine, ought to be used. This is the way Goshen butter is made.

One of the best butter makers in Chemung county, manufactures as follows:—The milk is put into twelve quart pans, and set on the bottom of the cellar, where it remains until it becomes loppered. It is then, both milk and cream, poured into churns, which hold a barrel each. A pailful of water to six pailfuls of milk is added, and the whole brought to a temperature of sixty-eight degrees. The churning is done by horse power, and requires two horses. Just before the butter is fully come, another pailful of water is put into each churn to thin the butter-milk, so that the butter may rise freely.—The butter is taken from the churn into large wooden bowls, thoroughly washed with cold water, and salted with one ounce of Ashton (Liverpool) salt to each pound of butter, and lightly worked through with a wooden blade. It is afterwards worked at intervals of about three hours, three or four times with a common ladle, and packed into firkins the next morning.

Butter, when packed, should be kept in as cool a place as can be found until it is sent to market—a cool cellar is the best place. Dairy butter is generally marketed in November and December. Our dairymen generally sell fresh, the butter made in spring before grass comes, and that made last in the fall after grass; they pack as long as the cows can be kept on good grass.—Many feed their cows on cornstalks in autumn, and continue to pack until winter.

The proportion of pasture and of meadow lands depends altogether on the season, and on the grass. Clover will not feed as long as timothy and the finer sorts. The true rule is to keep the pasture fresh, by changing from field to field. Cows are very nice in their selection of food; they will select as cautiously as any epicure, if they have a chance, and to make them profitable for dairy purposes, they at all times ought to have plenty of grass and water. In our climate, we allow that two tons of hay per cow, is none too much for winter; at our place less, probably, would answer. Corn meal is good food for cows, in winter and early spring. It is very important that cows be brought through the winter in good condition; their value for dairy purposes depends on this.—In our State, the dairymen stable their cows through the winter, keep them warm and comfortable, and feed them well.

In all our dairy districts, the land becomes more rich and productive from year to year. I am acquainted with acres that have not been plowed for twenty-five years; the sod is stiff and rich—the grass thick and fine. It is never fed down, except here and there in patches, the cattle selecting the finest and sweetest portions, treading the rest down into the earth to enrich the succeeding growth

thus adding to the productive capacities of the soil.

To produce good butter, the grasses ought to be a mixture of clover, timothy, blue, and other finer native grasses. We lay down our lands, with clover and timothy—the white clover, the sweet vernal, and other fine grasses come in the second or third year, making fine, sweet pasture for several years after. Where we intend to make butter, we let our land lay in sod for a number of years the older the sod, the finer and more nourishing the grass. We prefer to restore our grass lands by top dressing, rather than to plow and re-sod. Newly seeded lands do not produce as good grass, for dairy purposes as old.

Price of Wheat in War.

We have before alluded to the extravagant ideas that are entertained in some quarters in relation to the effect of war upon food. No part of Europe was more ravaged by imperial armies, in the early part of the century, than Italy and the Rhine provinces of Prussia; and if we turn to the local prices of that day, we shall observe the facts. The present Piedmont formed then nine departments of France, and the price of wheat ranged in 1808, from 23f. per hectolitre, in the Appenines, the highest price, to 15s in Itura. At Turin the price was 15.85f. per hectolitre, equal to \$1.04 per bushel. In Belgium the range was 12.63f. to 16.11f.; the former price at Luxemburg, equal to 84c per bushel for wheat. This was after nearly twenty years of war, following a most terrible famine, which was the immediate cause of the revolution. The wheat product of the forty-four departments annexed to the empire, and comprising Holland, the Rhine, Belgium and Italy, was for three years as follows:—When produced, in 1810, 194,556,513 bushels; in 1811, 188,043,891; in 1712, 210,933,522.—The product of France itself, in wheat, was 161,000,000 bushels. The price, in France itself, has never varied, except with the abundance, or otherwise, of the crops. Some singularly interesting facts in this regard, are to be derived from a document addressed to the Prefect of the Seine, by M. de Cambray, Chief of the Bureau for the distribution of food to the poor at Paris, in 1846-7. The report gives the average prices of wheat since 1447, with the years of famine, and the prices for those years. In 1716, the famine raised price of wheat in France to \$3 per bushel. In 1718, the harvests were abundant, and the rate fell to 50c per bushel. In 1720, in a time of great abundance, the price rose, under Law's paper money, to very dear rates. In 1725, continued rains ruined the crops, and a frightful famine compelled the government to become a large purchaser of foreign grain. The crops alternated until the famine of '93, when wheat sold at \$1.75 per bushel.—

In 1795, the price was quoted in assignats. In 1801, there was a great failure of the crops, and wheat rose to 37f. in Paris, or \$2,60 per bushel.

The corn law government charged a powerful house to make great purchases abroad, and in 60 days 317 ships arrived with 4,000,000 bushels of wheat. These arrivals, by quieting alarm, checked speculation, and the prices fell. The averages in France, during the war, were as follows:

	fr. c.	
1796-1800	14,26, or per bush	\$0,80
1801-1805	13,25 " "	73
1806-1810	16,36 " "	95
1811-1815	22,48 " "	1,16
1816-1820	26,10 " "	1,46
1841-1845	19,76 " "	1,17
1846-1847	24,71 " "	1,30

Thus, in the years of war with France, wheat was cheaper than in times of peace, and for the obvious reason, that, under ordinary circumstances, France produces a surplus to export, which cannot be done in time of war. For the same reason, England, which never produces enough for her own wants, is generally embarrassed in time of war, if the crops are deficient. With the seas open to each power, there is for the present no prospect of an effective rise in grain.—*U. S. Economist.*

The Corn Crop.

Mr. Editor:—I thought I would, with your liberty, just ask farmers to look at their growing corn crops, and see if there is any difference in the appearance of crops on deep plowed and shallow plowed land—on land well drained and on land not drained.

I saw specimens of the different modes of cultivation as I came to town, and I think it will be well if we take note of the matter. Some of us will probably live to plant corn another year, and if we cannot learn anything by experience, we shall be likely to live very useless lives.

The more I see of crops now, the stronger I am impressed with the doctrines put forth by the *Farmer*, that we shall need the use of the best agricultural skill to secure constant and large crops even on the best soils of Illinois. This can be done, and will be done; but it will require industry and judgment to do it.

Mr. Editor:—In your issue for June our friend "Rural," of West Urbana, says that the Keswick Codling, Fameuse, Fulton and Whitney's Russet, were unanimously recommended for general culture, at the Horticultural meeting at Bloomington, and the only ones out of several hundred named that stood the test.

There is certainly some mistake here. It is a fact I think, that four varieties

only were recommended at the Bloomington meeting, and one of those varieties was the Wine Sap. I was present at the Bloomington meeting and presented the Wine Sap as my favorite. I was gratified that it passed unanimously. I make this statement lest some might be led into error, and the reputation of that best of winter apples, the Wine Sap, suffer by being found in a secondary position. The Alton meeting also recommended it for general cultivation in the State.

RURAL, of Macoupin Co.
WOODBURN, June 8, 1859.

The "Manny Premium" for 1860.

Editor of the Farmer:—I am glad to see the notice of the State Society published in the papers, that the "Manny Premium"—(Manny's Mower and Reaper)—is to be given for a crop of wheat to be raised in 1860.

Now, brethren farmers, who shall have that premium? He that gets that premium, will not only get a valuable one, but it will be highly honorable to him. It will be the result of good culture, commenced now and continued until the wheat is ready for the reaper.

No common cultivation will secure that premium. The land must be favorable in the first place—it must be worked well—the variety of wheat must be the best—the land must be drained—the crop must be taken care of when on the ground, and when it is cut and threshed.

I hope that there will be many competitors. Let us now see the best that the South can do with her best land and best cultivation—let us see what the Centre can do on her rolling and rich lands; and let us see what the North can do, on her best lands, with the superior working and tillage that will be given to it.

This is a premium offered under circumstances and conditions worthy of the efforts of the best farmers of our State. Where shall that premium go? I hope to hear a favorable account from the CENTRE.

Raising Chickens.

Mr. Editor:—We often fail in raising chickens. The hens bring off large broods, and many of them sicken and die. Various remedies have been proposed and some persons happen to have used them successfully.

The pip is said to be caused by small worms getting into the wind pipe; and that worms are picked up by the young chickens in wood yards or chicken yards, where they are said to be plenty.

I have nothing to say about this; but the present season I adopted what was to me a new plan, and it proved successful.

When the hen came off with her chick-

ens, I put her with the chickens into a large dry goods box, so that the hen could fly out, but the chickens could not. There I kept the chickens for three weeks and fed them on dry food, that is crumbs of stale wheat bread and corn bread, and corn and sugar cane seed, ground coarse, with plenty of water, and occasionally I gave them very small bits of fresh meat. Every chick lived—indeed, none of them were at any time unhealthy, and they are now six weeks old and perfectly healthy.

This little history of chicken raising may be useful to others. CHRISTO.

Crops in England.

We learn from the *Mark Lane Express*, of June 6th:

The weather this week has been of a most favorable character in all the southern counties of England—warm and forcing, with heavy falls of rain at intervals, the thermometer being up to 70 deg. in the shade at mid-day, with occasional thunder storms. The crops generally have been pushed forward very rapidly, spring corn in particular, and grass lands having been greatly benefited. The clover now promises to be a heavy crop, and, from present appearance, some may be ready for cutting towards the close of next or the beginning of the following week. The wheat on the heavy soils is, if anything, too luxuriant, and on that account, would, with heavy storms, soon be down. This is the danger of the present season, the dry weather previously having been more favorable for this plant than the present very forcing weather—although this appears to have been confined to about half of England, in the midland and more southern counties. In Scotland and the wolds of Lincolnshire, there are still great complaints of the want of rain, and the prevalence of easterly winds, which, with little exception have lasted for seven weeks.

A heavy hail storm passed over Spalding, doing considerable damage to spring crops. In the eastern counties of Scotland, the farmers complain that grass is suffering from the want of rain. There was a thunder storm on the 4th, and copious showers.

A Question.

Mr. Editor:—Some men are opinion that wheat turns to chess, in consequence of hard freezing and thawing.—Now chess is found in Oregon, and in California, where there is no hard freezing and thawing. What makes wheat turn to chess in these Pacific States?

The strongest symptom of wisdom in a man, (says a French proverb,) is his being sensible of his own follies.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, AUGUST 1, 1859.

Our State Fair.

This, as our readers are well aware, commences at Freeport on the 5th September, continuing five days. The executive committee of the State Agricultural Society have made arrangements with the Rail Road Companies, so that persons can pass to and from the Fair at half price, and that articles to be exhibited at the Fair, will be carried there and returned free of cost.

We are anxious that the people of Illinois shall patronize their State Fair. The State Agricultural Society is an institution of their own, got up and hitherto sustained by them, and has been of vast use in introducing stock into the State, in bringing into notice the best agricultural implements, and, in a word, in stimulating improved systems of agriculture and Horticulture, which have been productive of the best results. The processes of agriculture have more rapidly advanced in this State within the last six years than in twice that period of time before. This progressive spirit is still extending, and we trust that ere long the great natural advantages of this State will reach the highest point of improvement by means and causes now in existence—the spirit of inquiry among our farmers, sustained and encouraged by our State and County Agricultural and Horticultural Societies—our agricultural papers and political papers partially devoted to agriculture—our rising Normal School and its adjuncts, the thousands of free schools of our State.

The prospects of our State attaining the highest position as an agricultural State, with a population able and desirous to make her all which the most enthusiastic and patriotic desire to see, in other respects, are, indeed, flattering. Our people are only required to press on in the support of the institutions we have named, and in securing the advantages arising from them, and the result will be most certain.

One of these institutions now calls upon our citizens to lend a helping hand—and the more so, as the more help she receives the more means she will possess to make herself useful—

The intimate relations between the State Agricultural Society and the County Agricultural Societies, justifies the former in anticipating large and energetic assistance from the county societies.

The arrangements for the fair are such that visitors need not be at great expense in visiting the Fair. Ample food will be found on the Fair grounds, and lodgings in the city will be furnished at cheap rates. Persons disposed to camp out in companies can do so, adjacent to the grounds, on a beautiful site selected for that purpose.

There was a triumphant exhibition of the Society in Southern Illinois last fall. Southern Illinois nobly came to the fair, in regiments, companies, platoons, in couples and singles. She promised to do this, and she did do it. She was liberally sustained by the Centre and North. We anticipate even a more triumphant exhibition in the North. The counties there are more densely populated—the people there have more extensive farms—are more conversant with the advantages of agricultural societies, societies having existed longer in the northern counties—and besides, the pledge is out by northern men, that the North will be at the fair.

We shall be disappointed, taking the ambition of the people of the north into consideration—the very large and dense population of the counties within a hundred miles of the State Fair—its location near the densely populated portions of Wisconsin and Iowa, we say that we shall be disappointed if it does not prove to be the best fair ever held in this State.

Come, farmers of Illinois, and bring your wives and sons and daughters with you, to the State Fair. They have nobly sustained you in the toils of the season—give them a pleasant and useful respite from their labors. Let them see at the fair the glorious exhibitions of the wealth, the genius, and the enterprise of our State. This commingling of the North and the South and the Centre, at our State Fair, is as useful as it is one of the most grand features of our exhibition.

Come, again we say, to our State Fair. You will return invigorated in health and spirits; your just pride as citizens of Illinois will be elevated, and

as farmers you will feel that your mission is the noblest accorded to man.

Come! Come!

Strawberries.

There is an increasing disposition among our farmers to add to their healthful fruits, an ample supply of strawberries. These can be secured with a little labor and attention. A few hours' work will give the farmer bushels every year. It is evidence of an unthrifty or careless farmer if it can be said of him that he does not cultivate fruits—apples, peaches, grapes, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, black berries and strawberries. We know of one farmer, near us, who transplanted the roots of the common black cap raspberry into his garden, and this year gathered bushels of the finest berries, improved from their original size, and better flavored than any of the foreign varieties. All the small fruits make certain crops with us, and produce plentifully. None pay more liberally, however, for the care bestowed on the plants, than the strawberry.

Of the strawberry, there are many varieties. Some prefer one variety, and another a different variety. Wm. R. Prince, of the Linnæan Nurseries, Flushing, N. Y., who has had as much experience as any other man in the United States, in their cultivation, thus gave his opinion in regard to the selection of varieties at the meeting of the farmers, in New York city, on the 20th of June last:

“The great point in culture is economy and its results, and the true test of the strawberry is *farm culture*, with or without cutting off the runners. Now, gentlemen, I hold myself responsible, in the fullest sense, for all I assert, and I call upon Mr. Huntsman, chairman of your committee, to correct me if I make any mistakes.

The following varieties I consider the best for field culture, where the plants are allowed to cover the entire ground, without further labor, thereby saving extra expense and producing much greater crops, as the whole of the ground is occupied. All are pistillates:

Scarlet Magistrate—the heaviest of all strawberries.

Diadem—splendid scarlet, produces double the crop of Wilson's Albany.—Mr. Martinus Bergen of New Jersey stated that he did not deem it possible for so great a crop of fruit to grow on

a given space of ground as he saw growing of this kind.

Elypse—early, bright scarlet, on upright stalks, clean and beautiful.

Minerva—very estimable in quality, produces more than twice Wilson's Albany.

Imperial Scarlet—large, bright scarlet, firm for market, upright stalks.

Perfumed Pine—seedling of Burr's Pine, obtuse cone, very large, bright scarlet, sweet, juicy, high flavor, plant vigorous, very productive, combines more valuable qualities than any other berry.

Hovey—qualities well known.

Malvina—same qualities as Hovey, but more productive, brighter color, better flavor, and one week earlier.

Globose Scarlet—large, rounded, very productive.

Florence—very large, conical, splendid scarlet, fine flavor, vigorous, very productive, valuable.

Prince's Globose—a late variety, very large, scarlet, moderate flavor, very productive and vigorous, ripens twelve days after the general crop, and therefore valuable as a late market fruit.

The following are the six best Staminate varieties for field culture, in stools with the runners cut off, thus entailing, however, additional expense, besides leaving much of the ground unoccupied:

Scarlet Prize—very large, fine flavor, bright scarlet, productive.

Wilson's Albany—qualities well known.

Sirius—monstrous size, light orange scarlet, splendid.

Barry's extra—fine flavor, light scarlet.

Primate—each flower produces a fruit, bright crimson, moderate flavor, showy for market.

Montrose—very large, splendid, productive, estimable.

Varieties preferable for families, being of finest flavor—Le Baron, Ladies' Pine, McAvoy's Superior, Sirius, Longworth's Prolific, Ward's Favorite, Globose Swainstone, Fragrant Scarlet, Hooker, Imperial Crimson, Minerva, Scarlet Prize, Perfumed Pine.

Cheat.

The Oregon *Farmer* contains several articles in reference to the vexed question—"Does wheat turn to cheat?"—In one of those articles it is stated that the subject, several years since, was settled in this county—tufts of wheat having been found and exhibited on which there was growing wheat and cheat. We have known cases where roots of wheat, in which were embraced the foliage, stalks and seed of cheat,

were triumphantly shown, and which on dissection, were found to contain roots of cheat, separate and distinct from wheat. Some fifteen years ago we were authorized to offer a reward for a plant from the roots of which should be found growing cheat and wheat. The subject excited at the time great interest. We have no doubt that much diligence was used to obtain the plant for which the reward was offered. Finally, one was brought from Christian county, and the fortunate discoverer claimed the reward. As we were interested in the matter—and as we wished that there should be a just and correct solution, Col. Wm. F. Elkin, a well known citizen and farmer, then sheriff, and now residing in this city, was called in and the plant put into his hands for dissection. With the utmost care he dissected it and found that there were two distinct plants present, one of cheat and the other of wheat. Every man present (and there were several,) concurred in this opinion. We think that the impression of our friend, the writer in the Oregon *Farmer*, was based on the rumor that the plant from Christian county (which rumor was in circulation before the examination) had solved the problem, and which was differently solved subsequently by examination. Our impressions are strong and decided, that wheat does not turn to cheat—and that cheat comes from the seed of cheat. Let farmers thoroughly purify their wheat when sown, from cheat, and we apprehend they will not be troubled with it.—Mr. J. Johnson, of Seneca county, New York, a distinguished and extensive farmer, says that he has had no cheat on his farm for twenty years-six years, and for the reason that he has not sowed it.

Blackberries.

These are a very popular wild fruit of Illinois. But the wild crop is uncertain. A long drought at the season of their maturing will dry up the fruit, make it small, sour and disagreeable.—Can we not have this fruit, in the season, always in perfection?

This question can be easily considered. The blackberry blossoms late, and is not injured by frosts. The fruit, as a general fact always sets thick.

Persons who have gathered wild blackberries have often noticed that the largest, fairest, sweetest, best, are usually found growing in the shade. Sometimes bushes can be found on which the sun never shines, and these will be loaded with the richest fruit. These facts furnish useful instruction for the cultivation of the blackberry.

Mark the plants of good varieties in the summer as they show fruit. In the fall dig them up. Plant them in your garden or orchard in hills four feet apart, and forget not this important rule—plant them so that but little if any sun will shine upon them, and in rich, loamy earth. The second year the plants will be loaded with fruit; and you can go out with a basket when the fruit is ripe, and can gather in a few minutes, fresh and fair specimens, for making pies or puddings; and with more time, you can gather enough to can for winter. And in winter canned, they retain their full and rich flavor.

Who will do this thing? Who will add to the pleasures of a farm life by adding this to their best fruits?

Attendance at Fairs.

Attendance at Fairs should be made useful. This can always be done. To attend a Fair and hurry through the different departments without investigating the use and value of the articles exhibited, may be amusing, but will be of little service. Let a man go to the Fair, examine the horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep, fruits, vegetables, cereals, agricultural implements, &c., &c., until he can get a definite idea of them, can fix their appearance and value upon his mind, and investigate and understand their advantages over the stock and cereals and implements, &c., to which he is accustomed, and thus give his mind food for thought and reflection. Going to Fairs under such circumstances, will be a benefit to every man who aims at obtaining information which will be useful to him. There is much of humbug in all branches of business; but the intelligent farmer, with a right use of his faculties, can separate the useful from that which is of no value. Much progress has in latter years been made in Agriculture. That farmer who will not acknowledge this fact, is behind the times. There are few farmers of this description,

and it is an obvious truth that the young farmers of the present day are given to investigation, and are using mind with as much advantage as muscle, in carrying on successful farming.

We venture to say, that with right views, no young farmer—or old farmer—can attend our State or County Fairs, and not find himself richly remunerated for the time and money spent on such occasions.

"Manny Premium" for Twenty Acres Winter Wheat, the Growth of 1860.

OFFICE OF COR. SEC. ILL. STATE AG. SOCIETY,
Springfield, July 19, 1859. }

To the Farmers of Illinois.

For the purpose of stimulating the enterprising farmers of Illinois, to produce, by proper and improved cultivation, large crops of wheat, from year to year regularly, upon a given quantity of land, Messrs. Talcott, Emerson & Co., of Rockford, have donated to the State Agricultural Society a "Manny's Combined Reaper and Mower"—to be made in the best possible manner.

In order that this magnificent premium may be productive of the most good, it is offered for the best crop of winter wheat, to be grown on twenty acres of land in Illinois, and to be harvested in 1860.

The object of publishing this notice at this early period is to stimulate the investigation by our farmers, accompanied by experiments, of the best course of culture to secure good crops, if possible irrespective of the seasons being what are commonly called favorable, or not. It is not desired to award this premium on whatever chances to have the best field, by accident, but to encourage investigations, to try the effect of frequent plowings of the land—of deep sub-soil plowing—of alternating crops—of surface draining—of underdraining—of thorough harrowing—of broadcast and drill sowing—of rolling the ground after sowing. It is desired also to experiment with the different kinds of wheat, now numerous—and the benefits of often changing the seed.

In a word, the object of this premium is to induce thorough cultivation, and secure a basis on which a system of cultivation can be inaugurated by which good crops of wheat can generally be secured by a thorough system of cultivation.

Progressive farmers will appreciate the motives of Messrs. Talcott, Emerson & Co., in authorizing the State Society to award this premium; and, we are confident they will take such measures to secure the rich prize as will be of vast benefit hereafter to the farmers of Illinois, and to the interests of the State, depending upon their success. S. FRANCIS,

Cor. Sec. Ill. State Ag. Society.

It is hoped that every paper in Illinois, agricultural, political and religious will speedily publish the above notice.

To the Farmers of Illinois.

I am authorized by the President of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, to announce that the large tent of the Society will be at

your service, to be occupied each evening during the fair in discussing matters connected with your interests. The first meeting will be held Tuesday evening, the 6th of September, at 7½ o'clock P. M., and each evening thereafter during the fair. Subject, Tuesday evening, Chinese and African sugar canes; their culture and value for sugar, syrup and forage.

S. FRANCIS,

Cor. Sec. State Ag. Society.

We are informed in addition to the above, that an effort will be made to secure the reading of brief, practical papers, on the best method for the manufacture of the cane into syrup and sugar, from men qualified to give information.

Premium Crop of Wheat for 1860.

We invite attention to the notice of a premium (Mannys' Reaper) for the best twenty acres of winter Wheat to be harvested in 1860. The premium has been offered thus early to secure the best cultivation of a crop of wheat for the premium. Hitherto the premiums have been offered after the seed was in the ground, and probably not a field was sown with the special design, to obtain by improved cultivation, a great crop. There is now ample time to secure, by good cultivation, a premium crop of wheat.

If a farmer believes he can make a crop, by half plowing his ground once; by sowing shrunk wheat broadcast over his ground filled with weeds; half harrowing it in; leaving the ground so that water will stand in the furrows and on the low places all winter and spring—and perhaps not sow his wheat till October; he will go on in that old mode of cultivation; for such a farmer probably never takes an agricultural paper, and has an entire contempt for book farming. Such farming will be likely to produce just such crops as we have seen this year—weeds and cheat. A premium crop cannot be made by such farming.

But if a farmer will commence now and give his land a thorough deep plowing, (he should have done it before;—if he will plow it the second time, harrow it well, drill in his seed in season; roll the ground after seeding; see to it that the ditches are all right—that the water does not stand upon the ground—the prospect will be fair for a good crop, and that the Manny premium may, in time, be his.

Nothing can be expected in the way of securing the Manny Premium by slovenly culture. Every success may be expected from thorough cultivation. We anticipate an exciting competition for the "Manny Premium." What county will take it? We know that efforts will be made to obtain it in Sangamon and Morgan.

Wheat.

The wheat crop in this section of the State is of good quality, but lacks in quantity. A good deal of it was winter-killed and much of it was thin on the ground. There were some excellent fields. New and drained ground, if sowed early, generally yielded well.

We regret to say that in our opinion the prices of wheat will be low. The crops are good throughout Europe, and in this country there will be a surplus of wheat, for which the foreign demand will be next to nothing. Nor do we think there is any chance for high prices within the next twelve months—unless all Europe shall be engaged in War.

We have looked for an advance in wheat in consequence of the present European War. But trade has proved that Europe does not want the wheat of our farmers or their beef or pork in any quantities. Europe wants our gold; and she is carrying it off in large amounts. She is crowding upon us her manufactured goods—a good portion of the value of which is made up of wheat and other provisions, the product of European farms; and our people, farmers as well as others, when they purchase foreign goods, purchase European breadstuffs and provisions, which make a part of their cost. Europe as we have said, does not want the produce of our farms, for the produce of her looms, forges and mines; she only wants our gold. Last week \$1,500,000 of gold was shipped to England, and a steady current of gold has been flowing out of our country to Europe, to pay for foreign goods, for the last six months.

What a blessing it would be to our farmers and the business of this country, if we had a market for our produce within our own country? How can the farmers of the West anticipate high or even fair prices for produce while the present state of our foreign trade continues?

The Sugar Cane.

There has been a good deal of Sugar Cane planted about this county—not in large fields, but in small patches. The Cane is likely to be very fine, good size and rich in juice. Well, it is about time now to make some arrangements for working it up into Sugar and Molasses. Do not wait to do this until there is no time to make the necessary preparations. A few farmers should unite and get mills and boilers. These will last many years and Molasses can be made that will not cost the farmer 25 cents per gallon.

We have no mills or boilers for sale, but can procure such for those who desire them.

TIMOTHY GRASS.

THE BEST TIME FOR CUTTING.

This grass (*Phleum pratense*), so universally known and highly valued by American agriculturists, was originally introduced into the country by Timothy Hanson, of Maryland, from whom it derives its name. It is known as catstail in England, herdsgrass in New England States. It is also a favorite grass in Sweden, where it is extensively cultivated. It is a perennial, bulbous-rooted plant; the leaves are broader than those of most other grasses, and rough, with long sheaths. In the early stages of its growth, it resembles a diminutive plant of Indian corn; stalk long and jointed, surmounted when mature by a long, hairy spikelet, containing the seed.

The first year after sowing the seed, the young plants consist of single bulbs, scattered over the surface of the ground at considerable intervals, and rarely blossoming. In the spring of the second year, the plant throws out a number of new bulbs in a similar manner to the potatoe onion. These blossom and produce seed, but very unequally. Each succeeding plant throws out others the following spring, till after three or four years the original single bulb is surrounded by a large circular stool of plants several inches in diameter. We counted seventy-six bulbs in one stool, supposed to be three years from the seed. The plants at this age are in their prime, and produce the heaviest crops of hay. Two years after the plant has thrown out the new bulbs, and given them a fair start, it shrinks up and dies, the bulb still remaining in the stool, but becoming hard and horny. If, during the early stages of its growth in the spring, while the new bulbs are forming, the plant is cut or eaten close by animals, the bulb either dies or carries on a struggling existence through the summer; the young bulbs are not properly developed, and the vital powers of the whole stool of plants become so exhausted that the dry weather of autumn or the frosts of winter soon kill them.

As a meadow grass to cut for hay, timothy is unsurpassed by any other grass now cultivated. It possesses a large amount of nutritious matter, in comparison with other natural grasses. It has been a general practice among farmers to grow timothy along with clover; but the practice is now being discontinued, except where the large or late variety of clover can be obtained.

Considerable discussion has been going on of late, among agriculturists, as to the proper time for cutting timothy for hay. Most farmers prefer to cut it when it is full blown, and say that it is

sweeter and contains more nourishment at this time. Others again, believe that if the mowing is performed before the seed is fully developed, the plant will run out, from a failure to re-seed the ground. Dr. Kirtland, of Cleveland, Ohio, states that an intelligent farmer of his neighborhood, Mr. Richard McCrary, after many careful observations on the growth of timothy, has arrived at the following propositions, which he illustrates with specimens:

1. Timothy grass is a perennial plant, which renews itself by an annual formation of bulbs, or, perhaps, more correctly speaking, tubers, in which all the vitality of the plant is concentrated during winter. These form, in whatever locality the plant is found, without reference to the dryness or moisture. From these proceed the stalks which support the leaves and head, and from the same source spread out the numerous fibres forming the true roots.

2. To insure a perfect development of these tubers, a certain amount of nutrition must be assimilated in the leaves, and returned to the base of the plant through the stalk.

3. As soon as this process of nutrition is completed, it becomes manifest by the appearance of a state of desiccation, or dryness, always commencing above either the first or second joint of the stem, near the crown of the tuber. From this point, the desiccation gradually progresses upward, and the last portion of the stalk that yields up its freshness is that adjoining the head.—Coincident with the beginning of this process, is the full development of the seed, and with its progress they mature. Its earliest appearance is evidence that both the tubers and seeds have received the requisite supplies of nutrition; and that neither the stalks nor the leaves are longer necessary to aid them in completing their maturity.

4. If the stalk be cut from the tuber before this evidence of maturity has appeared, the necessary supplies of nutrition will be arrested; their proper growth will cease, and an effort will be made to repair the injury, by sending out small lateral tubers, from which weak and unhealthy stalks will proceed, at the expense of the original tubers.—All will ultimately perish, either by the drouth of autumn, or the cold of winter.

5. The tubers, together with one or two of the lower joints of the stalk, remain fresh and green during the winter, if left to take their natural course, but, if by any means, this green portion be severed at any time of the year, the result will be the death of the plant.

From these five propositions, the following conclusions are drawn:

1. That timothy grass cannot, under

any circumstances, be adapted for pasture, as the close nipping of horses and sheep is fatal to the tubers, which are also extensively destroyed by swine.

2. That the proper period for mowing timothy is at any time after the process of desiccation has commenced on the stalk, as noticed in proposition third.—It is not very essential whether it is performed a week earlier or later, provided that evidence of maturity has become manifest.

3. All attempts at close shaving the sward should be avoided while using the scythe, and in guaging mowing machines, care should be taken to set them to run so high that they will not cut the timothy below the second joint above the tuber.

Any farmer can satisfy himself as to the correctness of these representations, by a little observation in his own fields; and as the point is one of importance, it is worthy of careful attention.

If cut just after coming into bloom, it no doubt makes the most eatable hay for stock, but gives less weight per acre than if cut later, besides the risk of destroying the vitality of the plants for succeeding crops. Early cutting, also, renders it liable to be killed by drouth. If cut when fully ripe, it gives a much larger quantity of hay per acre, but hard and wiry, containing more condensed nutriment, and requiring to be cut up fine to enable horses and other stock to eat it properly. If allowed to ripen, its seed is a very exhausting crop to the soil. The best time to cut timothy would probably be as soon as the seeds are fully formed, but before they begin to ripen. But as it is the latest of grasses, and comes to the proper stage for cutting just about the commencement of the wheat harvest, many farmers have either no patience to wait till then, or they put off mowing their timothy till wheat is secured—in either case greatly to their own injury. Now that mowing machines and horse rakes are becoming plentiful and cheap, the work of hay-making can be expeditiously done without interfering with other crops.—Timothy, especially if grown by itself, and cut with a machine when nearly ripe, requires but little more to be done to make it into hay, in this dry climate, than to be raked up in the evening and put into large cocks and carried to the barn next day, or as soon as convenient. If a few pounds of salt are thrown on each load as it is spread in the mow, all the acidity remaining in the hay will be corrected and fermentation prevented.—If clover is mixed with the timothy in a proportion not exceeding one-half, let the former wait till the latter is sufficiently mature; if the clover preponderates, the crop should be cut as soon as the clover is ready. Timothy has the

disadvantage of being but a slow grower, after it has completed its maturity and commenced a second growth which consists of leaves only; consequently it gives but little aftermath. It is then very nutritious; it keeps its greenness and vitality till late in the autumn, and may at that time be pastured by stock without injury to the plants.

In our dry, hot climate, farmers generally leave their grass, after cutting, too long exposed to the sun, and it then becomes dried up, so that its best properties are evaporated. It is a far better plan to cure the hay by putting it in cocks the evening of the day it is cut, if the weather is dry and the grass is mature, and letting it remain so for a day or two, or until it can be drawn to the barn or stack at leisure, taking care that it is not left to be exposed to a passing shower, should one be apprehended.

From the Valley Farmer.

Eastern Tree Peddlers:

MESSRS. EDITORS:—As guardians of the interests of the western farmers, I have been somewhat surprised to see that that have not, through the *Valley Farmer*, taken more pains to caution them against purchasing trees and plants from Eastern tree peddlers, who are now traveling over the West, and particularly our own State, in great numbers. With a carpet bag in their hand, containing two or three extra garments, and some beautifully colored plates of fruits and a nurseryman's catalogue (no one knows how obtained), they travel from house to house, boring every farmer, urging him to buy, even when he tells them he wants none of their trees. These peddlers possess wonderful assurance and press their suit till nearly kicked out of doors. Their consciences are very pliable, and they are ready to guarantee that every tree they sell will produce just as fine fruit as their engravings represent. They tell the farmers that no where else can they procure as fine trees or as fine fruit as of them.—They say that trees raised in New York are far superior to Western raised trees—that the climate is much better than this to raise trees in, and that they had better improve this opportunity to buy good trees and fruit. They run down Western nurseries and Western nurserymen, and make Eastern nurseries the very paragons of perfection. The plates of fruit they have are very beautiful and attract admiration, for they have been beautifully and highly painted for the express purpose of gulling the people. The making of these plates is made a very profitable business in Yankeeedom, for swarms of tree peddlers, like the locusts of Egypt, go out from the East annually to scour and scourge

the country. As before said, they force themselves into private houses, get their meals, stay over night frequently where they are not wanted, pretend to possess great knowledge of fruits, when in reality most of them know nothing about them.

By hard work, constant traveling, great importuning, telling large tales, making great promises, showing beautiful pictures, they manage to sell a great many trees and consequently make a great deal of money. One thing is certain, every sale they make, they get double what they have to give for it at the East and sometimes treble. Where they receive such large profits they can afford to press their claims with great strength and eloquence. They are making fortunes, and I state *what I know*—out of hard working farmers.

Who are these agents? Are they sent out by reliable, responsible Eastern nurserymen? Many of them pretend they are, but when the truth is ascertained they are disowned and denied by their pretended employers.—They are generally *self-constituted* agents, and too frequently get their trees of such parties at the East, as cannot sell them there, because their characters are too well known. Wherever they can get them the cheapest, the most of them will buy. If there is a lot of old accumulated rubbish, the trees peddler is sure to get it, because it is cheap. If some particular variety has accumulated, and is not saleable on account of its ascertained inferiority, it is sure to travel westward, and be labeled sometimes under different names, and the trick will not be discovered until the tree comes into bearing, which, in too many instances, will never be the case. The refuse of Eastern nurseries is generally what is sold by these same tree peddlers. The Eastern nurserymen won't deny this themselves. They can't sell this refuse stuff at the East, and it must come west, and in this manner our Western farmers are duped and swindled in the most outrageous manner. There may be some honest exceptions to this, but not one case in one hundred.

If farmers want to buy trees in the East, let them send their orders direct to the most reliable nurseryman there, and as their reputations will then be at stake, they will send you no refuse stuff. But the peddler in buying, even of the best nurserymen, will not buy the best, because it will cost too much, but take the poorest and cheapest, so that he can make money.

In no view of the case do I believe it is the policy of the farmer to patronize these peddlers. They are unreliable in any event. They have no reputation at stake. If they swindle you you will

never see them again. But when you order direct it is a different thing. You are more certain of getting better trees, and of varieties that have not been by them assorted to fill the list.

But is it for the interest of Western farmers and fruit growers to buy trees and plants at the East? I say, decidedly, **IT IS NOT.** And I will not only give the assertion, but the reasons of the assertion.

In the first place, trees raised in this climate by the time of planting out in the orchard are already acclimated. But the trees obtained at the East have got to become acclimated here, and too many of them perish before this takes place. The climate of the East where most of these trees are raised, is much cooler and moister than here. The result of planting them out under our hot suns, which they are not used to, is death to a large number of them.—The bark is frequently injured the first summer after planting, by the sun, and the borer takes possession under the bark, girdling the tree. If the bark had not been injured by the sun this would not have occurred, for this borer, known chiefly in the West, never attacks a healthy tree. The attack upon these Eastern unacclimated trees are far greater than upon trees raised in the West, "which are to the manor born." If no other reason were given, this would be sufficient to prevent the purchase of Eastern trees where equally reliable trees could be obtained that are raised in the West.

Another serious objection to getting trees at the East is that the season there is so short that the nurserymen are compelled to send scores of men and women over their nurseries, before digging the trees, to strip off the leaves, not being able to let nature take her course, but they must aid (?) her, in other words, violate her own laws. The leaves not being allowed to remain on the tree their proper time, the wood frequently does not mature, and the purchaser must be the sufferer.

Again, so short is the season for digging there that it must be done on a vast scale—they are dug by the thousand to fill large orders, and the roots of the tree, consequently, are frequently exposed for hours to the drying suns and winds, before they can be packed.—Sometimes they must be obtained from different fields, miles apart—sometimes from other nurserymen; and by the time they are packed, frequently many of them are so dried up that they can never be made to grow.

And if they are dug, immediately packed in the manner they too frequently are, by the time they have come a distance of twelve or fifteen hundred miles, by our abominably slow and careless

freight lines, if they then survive, it may safely be said to have nine lives.

But who suffers all these losses, all these risks? Not the tree peddler, not the nurseryman, but the purchaser, and no wonder that so few trees live, that so large a proportion of the trees planted never bear fruit.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars were paid out last year in Missouri to these peddlers, and again they are at work as busily as ever "seeking whom they may devour." But they rarely ever sell trees to the same parties more than once. The parties become satisfied with one trial. We have in Missouri good and reliable nurserymen, and if the farmers studied their own interest they would patronize these which are at home, and keep their money in their own State, and encourage their own people.

WESTERNER.

Johnson Co., Mo.

Norton's Seeding Grape.

This is a hybrid, produced from a cross of the Bland and Miller's Burgundy, by Dr. N. Norton, Richmond Va. It has been cultivated as a Wine Grape at Hermann Missouri, for the last eleven years. Mr. George Husmann, of that place, gives the following notice of it in the Valley Farmer. He says that every thing he states in regard to it are the results of his own observation and experience. Mr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, is now cultivating this grape.

1st. It is as hardy as an oak, having even withstood the terrible winters of 1855 and 1856 without any injury.

2d. It adapts itself to any soil, bearing plentiful crops on the rocky and steep hillsides, as well as in the deep and rich bottoms of our rivers and creeks, only varying somewhat in the quality of the wine it produces in different localities.

3d. It starts late in the Spring, blossoming about a week after the Catawba, and ripens its fruit a week sooner than that variety, which is a great advantage, in localities subject to late frosts in Spring, and early frosts in the Fall, and will make it valuable at the North.

4th. It is never touched by mildew and rot, and will produce under fair treatment, an average of from 300 to 500 gallons per acre.

5th. It makes an excellent, very dark colored wine, which under proper treatment, will compare favorably with good Burgundy or Port, though it has a peculiar, strong flavor of its own, and which sells very readily at \$2.00 per gal. or \$12 per dozen bottles. When the must of the Catawba has from 78 to 85 degrees specific gravity, the Norton's Virginia has from 81 to 90 degrees.

6th. It will stand more hard treatment than almost any other variety, as it bears fair crops, even if utterly neglected, though good culture will much improve it.

7th. It is a fine ornamental vine, as its foliage will remain green and fresh until

touched by the frost; and a strong grower, whose hardiness fits it extremely well for the covering of arbors.

8th. It is even when fully ripe, a pleasant eating grape, though it will never be a popular market fruit, as the berries are small; but it is very sweet, and many prefer it to the Catawba. These are its advantages.—The only drawback to this is, that it will not propagate from cuttings, but must be propagated by layering or grafting. But this is not so difficult, as a good vine when 2 to 3 years old, will make from 30 to 40 strong layers a year, besides producing some grapes.

Hoping that these remarks may induce all who read them to try it (and it needs but to be tried to be appreciated.)

I remain yours truly,

GEORGE HUSMANN.

Hints for the Season.

I. Corn for soiling may yet be sown.—Many farmers are short of grass, and a good supply of green feed, during the fall, will be found of great use. Sorghum may also be used for a like purpose. We prefer drilling to broadcast sowing. It requires less seed and the crop is more regular.

II. Buckwheat may be sown after the first rain. The extreme hot and dry weather of the last few weeks, is unfavorable to the coming up of the seed. A great breadth of buckwheat has been, and is being sown, on the ground injured by the June frosts. Be sure and obtain good fresh seed.

III. Keep your dairy cows in good pasture if that is possible, this dry weather. If the feed is deficient, the milk will decrease in quantity, and no amount of fall feeding will bring them back to the old standard. Young stock should now be well attended to, taking care that they have sufficient feed to keep them growing.

IV. Don't let the cultivator, or shovel-plow, or horse-hoe, remain idle in your corn field. Your well worked fields will bear bountifully, in spite of the drouth, while others will scarcely pay for husking. Potatoes should also receive their due share of attention, and this is the case with all hoed crops.

V. Sow turnips wherever the soil is adapted to them. A good supply of this root will help to eke out the winter's supply. Turnips should not be fed in large quantities to sheep intended for the butcher, as the mutton is apt to be flavored by them; nor should they be fed to dairy cows, in like quantity, as the milk and butter partake of this flavor.—Smaller quantities, however, mixed with other food, will be found highly beneficial, and larger amounts may be fed to other stock.—*Ohio Farmer, July 17.*

WORTH RECOLLECTING.—Jacob Strawn, the "giant farmer" of Illinois, says that he came to this State twenty-eight years ago; that he raised wheat for three years; that he became satisfied that wheat was not the crop for farmers of Central Illinois; that he went into the cultivation of Grasses and Corn,—and we all know with what results. Mr. Strawn is the richest farmer in Illinois.

BATES, July 9, 1859.

Editor of the Farmer:—I wish you and your readers to distinctly understand that I am now located at Bates, on the G. W. R. R., 13 miles from Springfield, west; that I am Post Master here; that my boys and I are making a kind of model farm here on 10 acres; that we have a kind of movable, paling fence that is entirely new about here; our 6 acres of corn looks well; our 200 apple trees (set last Spring,) grow as if nothing had happened to them; Irish potatoes very promising; pumpkins ditto; artichokes all right; sage, tomatoes, beets, squashes, sweet and pop corn, winter peas, rice corn, melons, cucumbers, &c., and our two acres Hungarian grass is magnificent. Our broom-corn and beans we cannot boast of, for we did not plant them half thick enough. We have 30 rods hedge set and a good lot of nursery trees, some of which I shall improve by budding this summer.

ABOUT THE PROPER TIME TO CUT TIMBER.—It is very strange to me that people have been so slow to learn the very important fact that *any timber cut in the summer is worth three times that cut in the winter.* The reason of it, I suppose, is, it *dies* so quick and dries quick and seasons before it sours. Two years ago, I cut a hickory, for timber for fork handles, &c.. The worms did not seem to meddle with it at all, and I know no other reason than that it was cut in the summer. When the top had lain there a year or so, I was there and the bark was loosed from the body and the latter sound and good. I think much like Mr. Howard, and ardently wish the good of all.

Yours ever, WM. GOULD.

Valuable Recipes.

Green String Beans can be used for winter use. Pick good tender sweet string beans, cut them into pieces about three-quarters of an inch in length, throw them into boiling water, let them stand five minutes; then, having the oven heated just hot enough to avoid burning the beans, spread on tin or earthen dishes set them into the oven, and let them remain there till perfectly dry; when they should be put up in small bags, and hung in a cool, dry place.

When you wish to cook a mess of corn and beans, put them to soak over night in warm water, and cook them as usual.

Rhubarb Wine. A valuable wine can be made of the juice of the Rhubarb stalk.

The juice of the rhubarb is extracted by the same process that currant, elderberry, or any other juice, and mixing with the juice an equal quantity of water. To each gallon add three and a half pounds of fair quality of New Orleans sugar. Put in barrels or casks filled full, and lined with isinglass; being allowed to remain in the casks until spring, and then bottled. By adding or diminishing the quantity of sugar, it will vary the strength of the wine in the same proportion.

Some boil the Rhubarb in large kettles,

adding say two quarts of water to prevent it from burning in the kettle. The pulp is then put into a bag and the juice readily separates from it. Some prefer this mode of extracting the juice.

Rhubarb is said to afford a greater quantity of juice than any other plant, and it is also considered a better quality than any but grape juice to make domestic wine. The process is simple and has this to recommend it; moreover, it is said by those who have tested the merits of rhubarb wine, that it is equal to American sherry.

Dried Rhubarb. A capital article for pies can be had by taking off the skin of the stalks, cutting them into pieces about an inch and a half long and drying them. They dry best if these pieces are strung on strings, in the manner in which apples are often dried.

Labor Saving Soap. To each pound of common hard soap, add from one half to three-quarters of an ounce of common borax, with one quart of water. Put the water in any convenient vessel on the stove, add the borax, somewhat pulverized, and then put in the soap cut up in thin pieces. Keep them hot, but not boiling, for two or three hours, or until the whole is well dissolved, and then set it aside to cool, when a solid mass will be formed. If the vessel is set upon a warm stone at night, the operation will be completed in the morning, though we think it better to stir the mass just before it is cooled. The night before washing rub the clothes where most soiled, with the soap, and soak in water till morning. The boiling and washing to be performed in the usual manner, but it will be found the labor of rubbing is diminished three-fourths.—This preparation is adapted to all kinds of fabrics, colored or uncolored, including flannels, and is thought to increase their whiteness.

What is Expected of the Farmer.

The great problem which our farmers are called upon to solve, is this: How to produce large crops at a fair profit, and at the same time increase the fertility of the soil. A farmer's best capital is the productiveness of his farm. The process, now we hope fast disappearing from practice in New England, of "skinning the land," is like paying compound interest on the money one *loans*; whereas, so treating the soil as to add to its productive power, is putting money into a bank that never breaks, never repudiates, and not only pays its interest promptly, but adds every year to its principal.

"A farm," says Beecher, "is a vast manufactory. Instead of buildings and machinery, you are to carry on manufacturing operations through the agency of the soil. No laboratory turns out a greater variety of products; none requires for its highest success more knowledge, skill, and business tact. If a chemist were obliged to evolve his various products in such a way as at the same time to build his houses, create his furnaces and implements, his task would

be like the farmer's; who, while raising crops, is also bringing up the condition of his ground, and fitting it for its best functions."

The brief statement of conditions like these, is evidence sufficient to show that the farmer who hopes to perform successfully all that is here indicated, must add to a native common-sense and a ready practical talent, all the best scientific processes of the times. He must avail himself of the experience of the past, and the wisdom of the present. He must search for information in the channels where it flows. He must be a patient seeker after information, also, in those points wherein others' experience, by reason of different circumstances, slips over him. From all these sources he must be able rapidly to educe general laws from particular instances, and fit the same to his own practice in a variety of circumstances as various as the points of the compass. If he does all this and puts money in his pocket, and fertility into his soil at the same time, he is the model farmer of the age, and just the kind. *The Homestead* is striving to make such farmers.

But it is only the wide-awake men who ever become such farmers; it is only they who aspire to become such. But we want to say to all farmers' boys who may chance to read this, that farming carried on in the way we have here indicated, will give scope and employment to all their powers to an extent no other profession can. Let it be your ambition to be a good farmer, and then work for it as men work to be ministers, or lawyers, or merchants, and no career has so many possibilities of a true and a happy life as may be included within the scope of yours.—*The Homestead*.

Potatoc Bread.

To make good yeast, take a handful of hops, put them in two quarts of boiling water, let them boil a few minutes, strain in flour enough to make a thick batter, stir it frequently till it is cooled off, then put in yeast enough to raise it. The oftener you stir it the lighter it gets.

Take some twenty small potatoes wash them clean and boil them soft, put them in a pail or jar, mash them fine, then put in as much warm and cold water as will make five or six loaves with the mashed potatoes, a pint of the above yeast, stir well together, be careful not to scald it when you put in the yeast, let it stand till next morning, and you will see how nice it has raised and how the froth has come on the top. Have your flour ready and warm (this should set in the evening before you bake), then warm your rising, keep stirring it till warm enough, strain through a sieve on your flour, stir till a thick bat-

ter, let it rise till it is light, then knead it up and mould in loaves. Do not get it stiff, when it is light brown, and you will have good, light and wholesome bread.—*Ohio Cultivator*.

Deep Culture a Means of Warming the Soil.

A correspondent of the *Mark Lane Express* furnishes an able article upon this subject, from which we make the following extract:

"We all know that heat and moisture are the two elements of decomposition and rapid growth, as shown in tropical countries. Deep and loose cultivation tends to this result. Possibly the action of light may also be important. One cause of the rapid growth of market-garden vegetation, is depth of cultivation combined with the subterranean heat of the decomposing manure; and wherever there is heat, moisture is attracted.—The necessity for a more perfect cultivation is obvious; even on a fallow you may pick up small, hard knobs of clods, which on breaking into fragments, exhibit a little treasure of unexplored and unavailed of territory, confirming the great JETHRO TULL's principle of infinitesimability in cultivation. I have great faith in the use of Cröskill's clod-crusher in very dry weather, for the breaching of obstinate clods."

Editor of the Farmer:—I am getting to be an old man and am anxious to let my light shine before men.

The main point in forming is the point of the plow, perhaps. And the next thing of most importance is strength—force of power; but, as the Bible says, "Wisdom is profitable to direct." The economy of human life requires knowledge, prudence, judgment. When I ask a man to take an agricultural paper, he says he knows now a heap more than he can practice, but I think they might know a little more without damage. Do they all know what crops are best to put on their ground? Some crops are as sure to grow as weeds are; as Millet and Hungarian Grass, and beets and artichokes are sure crops with me; so is broom-corn; but because they are sure, shall we cultivate nothing also? Shall we plant a hedge? and how thick? and when shall we cut it? and how much? Shall we try any experiments with cane or rice, or berries of any kind? Will it be necessary to make any improvements in our old modes of practice to keep up with the progress of the age? Do we wish our sons to be any wiser than we are, or would we have them go through life in the same tracks? Would we dress this beautiful prairie land with all the useful plants and fruitful trees that it is capable of producing, or shall we suffer it to produce the troublesome Jamestown, May weeds and cuckle burr?—

These questions and many more that might be added, are of much importance and of course, are of much interest to thinking men—and who would not be a thinker, and a free thinker too. Who is too old to learn? I am not, and the acquisition of new ideas is ever a pleasure to me, provided they seem to be useful ones.

G.

HESSIAN FLY—HOW TO TRAP HIM.—

A writer in the *Valley Farmer* says he has found the following practice to succeed well: About the middle of August sow a strip of wheat adjoining where you intend to put your crop—say one or two acres. About the middle of September sow your field. When that has come up and shows cleverly, plow under the first sown; turn it under well. Your fly is headed and your crop is safe.—Will you try it? If you will, you will want to find out the writer.

COMMERCIAL.

Springfield Market—July 26.

WHEAT—75c@81 00 per bu; FLOUR—\$6 50 per brl; CORN—60 per bu; scarce; CORN MEAL—\$1 00 per bu; OATS—50c per bu; none; BEANS—1 25@1 50 per bu; BRAN—10c per bu; SHORTS—15c per bu; TIMOTHY—None in market; HUNGARIAN Gr Sd—\$4 50; MILLER—None; CLOVER—\$8 50 per bu; POTATOES—\$9 60@89c; HAY—\$8 per ton; TALLOW—9c per lb; SOAP—bar, 6 1/2c per lb; CANDLES—12 1/2c per box; PICKLED PORK—\$8 10 per 100; BACON—hams 10c per lb; CHICKENS—\$1 25@1 50; BACON—sides 10@11c per lb; EGGS—10@12c per doz; LARD—12c per lb; SUGAR—8c@10 per lb; COFFEE—13c@15c per lb; MOLASSES—45c@60c per gal; SALT—\$1 75 per sack; ALUM—\$2 00 per brl; MACKEREL—12@13c No 1; CODFISH—\$5 75 per 100 lbs; APPLES—dried, \$3 per bu; WOOD—\$3 50@4 per cord; COAL—12c per bu; WHISKY—28@35c per gal; VINEGAR—20c per gal; BROOMS—\$1 50@2 50 per doz; BUTTER—15 1/2@20c per lb; HIDES—Dry, best, 15@16c; HIDES—Green, 7c; APPLES—green; \$1 00;

St. Louis Market—July 26. p. m.

A steady falling rain to-day prevented business and interfered with operations in general articles. Light receipts, however, had much to do with circumscribing transactions. Wheat, on such account, advanced a little for very high grades, and was somewhat fuller in prices for all descriptions. Corn, for the same reason, was two to three cents per bushel higher. Flour and Oats were unchanged, with trifling operations. Rye was dull, with a further tendency downward. Whisky, from considerable receipts was firmer, and part of the sales were made at 27c per gallon, an advance. Other articles had no features of interest.

Chicago Market—July 26, p. m.

There was a better feeling both in Wheat and Corn to-day, under a demand by short sellers. Wheat advanced 1/2c on Spring grades. Winter Wheat, however, was rather dull and heavy. About 24,000 bushels of fall kinds changed hands at 93 1/2c for No 1 Red on track; 87c for No 2 Red on track; 95c for No 2 White on track; 53@54c for Standard Spring in store; and 50c for No 2 Spring. At the close the market showed more activity than throughout the day, and standard Spring closed at 53c. Flour was dull and unchanged. Corn opened at 57c for No 1; but owing to an urgent demand, holders became firm, and the market remained very stiff at 58c—showing an advance of 2@3c on yesterday's prices. About 18,000 bushels changed hands at 59c for Cash at 57c; 57@58c for No 1 in store; and 50c for Rejected—the market closing firm at the outside quotations. Oats were heavy with sales at 25@26c closing week. Rye more active at 50c. Nothing doing in Barley. Highwines 21 1/2c. Provisions inactive, except for Bacon Hams which are scarce and in good demand. Wool firm. Hides active at previous prices.

[By Telegraph]

New York Market—July 27.

Flour in better demand; prices without change; \$4 50@4 70 super state; \$4 80@5 extra state; \$4 90@5 old; \$5 10@5 35 fresh ground round Hoop Ohio. Wheat 2@4c better; sales 6000 bu at 75c Chicago Spring; \$1 40 new white Ky. Rye 80c; barley quiet. Corn dull and heavy, sales small at 80c@82c mixed western. Oats dull at 41@42c. Pork heavy at \$5 25@15 50 for mess; \$10 62 1/2@10 75 for prime. Whisky firm at 21 1/2c.

St. Louis Horse Market—July 23.

At the beginning of the week supplies of about 50 head were received at P. Wiles' Bazaar Stables. The most of them were taken by government buyers. Until they got a supply the market was brisk, and dealers received fair prices. Supplies being tight, prices were held firmly during the week. Some 20 head of good horses were sold to southern buyers.

Sales of 168 head were made at the Fifth Street Bazaar Stables, between Washington avenue and Green street, as follows: At Tuesday's auction sale no first class horses offered; 13 head of common and inferior sold from \$41 to \$100. Friday's sale, 21 head sold at fair prices; the attendance was large, and the demand more than equal to the supply.

Private sales during the week, at the same stables, reach 74 head, at prices varying from \$100 to \$225 each.

Some call for mules but very few in market. 7 head of medium and common sold as follows: 1 single mule \$110; 1 pair do \$240; 1 pair do small \$225.

Market closed with 25 to 30 head of horses left over.

St. Louis Live Stock Market—July 23, p. m.

There is no change in prices since our last quotation. But few good Cattle in the market. Those offering are principally grass fed, and of inferior quality. Good fat Steers retail at 7c net; fat Cows at 5c gross; common from \$18 to \$28 per head. Indian and Texas Cattle, that have been crowding the market for the past month, are mostly sold, and driven to the country for feeding; those offering are generally of inferior quality, and selling from \$15 to \$22 per head.

SHEEP—A fair demand for good ones, at from \$2 to \$3 per head; common from \$1 to \$1 50 per head; but few left over unsold.

HOGS—Good fat ones, for butcher's use, 8c net; for shipping do, from 6 1/2 to 7c net.

COWS AND CALVES—Large fine Cows, for shipping South, are selling from \$25 to \$40 per head; common to ordinary from \$15 to \$20 per head.

New York Cattle Market—July 20.

BEEVES—The market has declined over half a cent per lb. on our previous quotations, and at the reduction butchers have not been disposed to buy freely. The consumption has been considerably affected by the large number of people that are spending the summer away from this city, at this season. The warm weather has helped to decrease the demand. Under such causes with a large supply for two weeks it is not strange that the very best cattle should sell for 10@10 1/2c per lb., and the average of all sales below 9c. Neither is it strange that butchers should forget to share their advantages of cheap beef with the actual consumer, as it has long been a constitutional peculiarity with most butchers to make their large profits on the sudden fluctuations of the cattle market. The receipts at Allerton's were 3,070 head, via New York 402; Ohio 1013; Indiana 244; Illinois 650; Kentucky 130; Iowa 143; New Jersey 13; Missouri 74; Canada 62; Michigan 39 by the following conveyances:—By the Erie Road 1013; Hudson do 1567; Harlem do 14; Camden and Amboy 75; Hudson river boats 406. At Bergen, New Jersey, 636 were sold to butchers for this market. The quality was generally fair; some very superior were on sale.

SUNDAY SALES—It was announced at A. M. Allerton & Co's Yards this morning, that the Sunday trade would henceforth be discontinued. And it was intimated that Browning's Yards would also be closed hereafter on Sunday. The proprietors have taken this step, they assert, themselves. It is said they wished to anticipate any action in reference to it by the City authorities.

BEEF CATTLE.

Prem. quality, per cwt.....	\$— @—
Prime do do	10 00@10 50
Ordinary do do	9 75@10 25
Common do do	8 50@9 50
Inferior do do	6 00@8 00

MILCH COWS—Have been dull, particularly for poor qualities. Prime are in moderate demand for private use.—We quote:

Best quality.....per head..	\$50 00@60 00
Good qualities.....do ..	40 00@45 00
Fair qualities.....do ..	30 00@35 00
Common qualities.....do ..	20 00@25 00

VEAL CALVES—The business is very moderate, and prices are lower; sales at 3 1/2@6 1/2c. A fine calf, weighing 345 lbs, only 11 weeks old, raised by J. Perry, of Ware Co., N Y, sold for \$13—less than 4c per lb., and a very good calf. We quote:

Prime quality, per lb.....	5 1/2@6 1/2c.
Ordinary, per lb.....	5 1/2@5c.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

	Cattle.	Milch Cows.	Veal Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Swine.
This day.....	3254	195	838	11555	2630
Last week.....	3557	171	857	10,496	2160
Increase.....	.....	24	.....	1959	462
Decrease.....	393	.....	19	.....	.....

Bloomington Nursery, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

Eighty Acres Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

200 NAMED SORTS TULIPS, ALSO

Ilyacinths, Crocus, and a general assortment of Bulbs and Flower Roots for Fall and Spring planting. Nursery stock, Evergreens, Greenhouse and Garden plants—all at wholesale and retail at lowest cash rates.

For particulars see Catalogues or address subscriber.

F. K. PHOENIX.

Bloomington, Ill, August 1, 1859.

Wheat Drills.

BREAKING PLOWS, BROADCAST SOWERS. For sale by S. FRANCIS. aug1

WESTERN TREES FOR THE WEST, AT THE WOODBURN NURSERY!

PERSONS WISHING TO PURCHASE their Fruit Trees, Shade Trees, or Shrubbery; will find it to their advantage to order at the above named Nursery.

We have for sale Thirty Thousand of 5 to 7 feet high, choice Apple Trees, of some fifty approved varieties, for Western culture; which we can with confidence offer to the public.

We also offer a good assortment of Peaches, Pears, (Dwarf and Standard,) Cherries, Plums, Quinces, Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Lawton Blackberry, Strawberries, Rhubarb, or Pie Plant, &c.

3,000 SILVER-LEAVED MAPLE.

Than which a handsome Shade Tree cannot be found—They are eight to ten feet high, of thrifty growth, and to be had for ten dollars a hundred.

We will sell the above named Trees and Plants as reasonable as they can be had at any respectable Nursery—distinctly labeled, and carefully packed and delivered at the Nursery, or at the Railroad Depot.

We desire and shall aim to conduct our business, in all respects, satisfactorily to those who favor us with their patronage. We are permanently engaged in the business, and intend to make it to the interest of our friends to call on us.

JONATHAN HUGGINS.

Woodburn, Macoupin County, Illinois.

Aug1

FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR

OF THE

ST. LOUIS AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL ASSOCIATION.

To commence September 26, 1859, and continue SIX DAYS.

\$20,000 to be given in Premiums.

AMONG OTHERS ARE THE ST. LOUIS

Prizes viz:
No. 1. For the best thorough-bred Bull.....\$1,000
No. 2. For best Roadster Stallion, in harness..... 1,000
No. 3. For best thorough-bred Stallion..... 1,000
Arrangements have been made for the most brilliant exhibition ever witnessed in this country.

The grounds embrace 50 acres of land, covered with blue grass, ornamented with forest trees and evergreens, winding avenues, and nine beautiful fountains.

The Amphitheatre, much the largest in the United States will seat 12,000 persons, and shelter as many as 30,000. There are also Floral, Fine Art, and Mechanical Halls, and a spacious building with steam power attached a Gallina lum with 99 compartments, for the exhibition of Poultry, and a beautiful cottage for the accommodation of ladies.

A Horse Railroad will convey persons to and from the Fair at 20 cents a piece.

Competition invited from the whole Union, and no Entry Fee charged.

Persons desiring stalls should lose no time in engaging them.

Office of the Association, No. 65 Chestnut Street.

J. R. BARRETT, President.

aug1

G. O. KALE, Secretary.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD OWN AND READ "PLAIN AND PLEASANT TALK ABOUT FRUIT, FLOWERS AND FARMING." IT GIVES VALUABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUCCESSFUL CULTIVATION OF WHEAT, CORN, RYE, OATS, FRUITS AND FRUIT TREES, &c. THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF CATTLE, A LIST OF CHOICE SEEDS, FRUITS AND FLOWERS. HOW TO TRANSPLANT AND PRUNE TREES AND VINES, GRAPING &c.

"PLAIN AND PLEASANT TALK ABOUT FRUITS, FLOWERS AND FARMING," WRITTEN BY HENRY WARD BEECHER, who to his already renowned reputation as a PREACHER, ORATOR AND AUTHOR, MUST NOW BE ADDED THAT OF A PRACTICAL FARMER AND GARDENER—FOR SUCH HE IS AND HAS BEEN. 1 VOLUME, PRICE \$1 25. FOR SALE BY ALL BOOKSELLERS AND AGENTS, OR SENT BY MAIL, POST-PAID, ON RECEIPT OF THE PRICE.

DERBY & JACKSON,

August 1—11

Publishers, New York.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

SHRUBBERY AND EVERGREEN TREES.

With a general assortment of Nursery articles for sale at the Pleasant Ridge Nursery, Arispe, Bureau, county, Ill. Very Aldrich, proprietor. I have a few thousand 6 year, 15,000 five year, 30,000 three year, 50,000 two year, and 100,000 one year old apple trees, at wholesale or retail. Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Strawberries, &c. Our stock of Evergreens is large, and very fine specimens; the N. Y. Pippin, Wagner, and Red Seekno further, are the most hardy in the list, of which I have a good supply. Also of the Tompkins county King. Catalogues sent free. P. O. address, Tiskilwa, Ill.

August, 1859—3m

VERY ALDRICH.

DUNLAP'S NURSERY.**40 ACRES IN TREES AND PLANTS.**

IN ESTABLISHING A NURSERY AT this place, we have done so with a view of making it a permanent business. We invite the patronage of those who wish to encourage home industry, and have a desire to beautify their grounds and fill their orchards with such plants and fruits as are adapted to our soil and climate; at the same time we disclaim any intention to make war on those who purchase of peddlers, or send east for their supplies, we are content to wait, as we look to these persons to make us a valuable class of customers, at no distant day. The well cultivated ground where their dead trees stand will be in excellent condition to do ample justice to live healthy trees, to which we may point with pleasure. Trees grown in New York, with highly stimulating manures, and being protected by snow in the winter, can hardly be expected to stand, unscathed, our changeable climate. It is our pride to give our customers satisfaction; this we intend to do on all occasions, as we can live by a fair and legitimate business.

Apple Trees, 5 to 7 feet high,	20 cents each
" " " " " "	\$16 per 100
" " " 5 years old,	25 cents each
Dwarf and Standard Pears,	50 " "
" " " Cherry,	50 " "
Standard Plums,	50 " "

A General Stock of Evergreens Ornamental Trees and Plants.

Catalogues had on application

Conductors on the Illinois Central Railroad have directions to leave passengers at the Nursery, 3 1/2 miles South of Urbana, when requested before leaving the last station, when on time. Farmers and tree planters of Central Illinois, will you encourage home industry?

M. L. DUNLAP,

West Urbana, P. O., Champaign Co., Ill.

July 1, 1859—17

B. F. FOX,**Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Hardware,**

IN ALL ITS VARIOUS BRANCHES, HAS NOW IN STORE one of the largest and best assortments of goods in his line ever offered in this market. Importing many styles of English goods direct, and purchasing his American goods of the manufacturers at the lowest (cash) prices, he is enabled to offer merchants and consumers goods at the lowest prices, and on as favorable terms as any house east or west. His stock embraces a very large and complete assortment of

Agricultural Tools and Implements!

of the latest and most improved kinds and qualities. Reapers, Mowers, Straw Cutters, Hedge Trimmers, Sicks, Grass and Trimming Hooks, Cradles, Scythes, Snaths, Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Scoops, Axes (all kinds and makes), Picks, Mattocks, Fan Mills, Seed Separators and Threshing Machines.

HOUSE FURNISHING & BUILDERS WAREH USE.

Large and complete assortment of Locks, Latches, Bolts, Hinges, Screws, Bolts, Brads, Nails. **TRIMMINGS**—great variety

Carpenter's and Builder's Tools!

Planes, Saws, Chisels, Augers, Braces, Bits, Drawing Knives, Squares, Trowels, Bevels, Hatchets, Hammers, Adzes, Burch and Broad Axes, Boring Machines, Gould's and Steplee's Morticing Machines, Files, &c.

Blacksmith's Tools.

Bellows, Anvils, Vices, Screw Plates, Tongs, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Bulltresses, &c.

COOPER'S TOOLS.

Fine assortment, Knives, Hooks, Planes, &c.

CUTLERY.

A very large stock and assortment of Wostenholm's Butcher's and other's. Table, Pocket, Pen, Butcher and Shoe Knives, Razors, Shears, Clippers, Carvers, &c. Great variety.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

Gun Trimmings and Mountings, single and doublebarrelled English and German Rifles, Pistols of great variety, together with a general assortment of goods usually kept in a Hardware store.

S A W S

Every variety, mill, cross cut and circular, from three inches to sixty inclusive, furnished at manufacturers prices.

Saddlery Hardware and Carriage Trimmings.

In this branch of my business, I am enabled to extend to saddlers and carriage makers unusual facilities, being supplied direct from the manufacturers. Goods in this line come to me at extraordinary low prices. My stock embraces all varieties: Buckles, Ferrets, Ornaments, Rosettes, Rings, Snaffles, Bits, Pouches, Webbing, Self-Adjusting and Denison Trees, Saddler's Silk, Shoe, Three-Cord and Fitting Thread.

Carriage Trimmings.

Brass and Silver Plated, Screw Front Bands and Plated Screw Front Mail Bands, Coach Handles, Curtain Frames, Turned Collars, Patent and Enamelled Leather, Enamelled Muslin, Duck and Drill, Rubber Cloth, Carriage Bows, Deer and Curled Hair, Patent Leather and Rubber Belting, Hemp and Rubber packing.

Orders promptly filled and forwarded.
May 1st, 1857.

B. F. FOX

Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL RECEIVE Orders for Fruit, Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery to be had from any Nursery in this State. The article will come fresh, in good order, will be true to name, better and lower than the trash often imported from foreign Nurseries.

mch1

S. FRANCIS.

MOLINE PLOWS.

Manufactured by John Deere.

AS THE SEASON FOR FALL PLOWING is at hand, the subscriber would ask the attention of Farmers and others interested, to his large and superior stock of Plows of all kinds, now in use in the West, consisting of

Three sizes of Improved Clippers, made from the best Cast-steel, and finished in very superior manner; these, plows for ease of draft, and perfect plowing, have no equal in this State.

Four sizes and qualities of the common form of old ground plows, made from Cast, German and American Steel, which are equal to any plow made after this style,

Corn Plows of two qualities.
Double and single Shovel Plows.
Five Tooth Cultivators.

Harrows, two styles, reversible, adjustable, and Giddes Double Harrow.

On Yokes of three sizes, finished in the best manner, and a very superior article

Twelve and Fourteen in Extra Breakers, for breaking Prairie or other soil, with two and three horses—these are very superior breaking plows.

Common breakers of every size and style, on hand, or made to order.

The Michigan Double Plows. Of this I am making two sizes for three and four horses. This plow is adapted to breaking, plowing stubble-land, or subsoiling; and will do anykinds of plowing in the best manner. No plow has given such general satisfaction wherever it has been used. It should be more generally introduced for deep plowing and subsoiling.

All orders for plows either singly or by the dozen will receive prompt attention
Sept., 1858—6 times.

JOHN DEERE.

All of said articles can be had on application to Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

Western Land Office.**T. S. MATHER.**

FOR THE

PURCHASE AND SALE OF CITY PRO-**perty, Farms and Unimproved Lands,****PAYMENT OF TAXES,****Collection of Claims.****Government Lands**

ENTERED WITH WARRANTS OR CASH IN ANY LAND DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS, IOWA, MISSOURI, MINNESOTA OR NEBRASKA.

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

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OFFICE ON NORTH FIFTH STREET, OVER J. RAYBURN'S.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

A DENTAL PRACTICE OF FIFTEEN YEARS WARRANTS him in saying that all operations shall be carefully and neatly performed. He is in possession of several premiums and diplomas awarded by the best institutes for the promotion of science and arts in the country.

Teeth inserted, from one tooth to full sets, as substantial and handsome as can be had in any city of the United States or Europe. Artificial palate plates inserted, supplying the want or loss of the palate, velum and would, so as to restore articulation.

Refer to Prof. David Gilbert, Pennsylvania College of Medicine, Philadelphia; Hon. J. S. Black, Washington City; Rev. Dr. Harkey, Illinois University; Drs. Helm, Ryan and Wallace; Messrs. Jacob Leese, J. S. Condel, J. H. Gray, Fosselman, Owen, Corneau & Diller.

June 7, 185.

EVERGREENS.**ORDERS MAY BE LEFT WITH S.**

Francis for Evergreen Trees by the quantity, from the well known Nursery of Samuel Edwards, Bureau county, at the following rates:

Balsam Fir, American Arbor Vitae, White Pine, White Spruce, six to ten inches high, \$5 per hundred and \$35 per thousand.

The same varieties, from the woods, collected by Mr. Edwards' agents, who take them up in the best possible manner, selecting trees carefully from open exposures, packing at once in damp moss, at \$15 per thousand and \$90 per ten thousand.

American Larch, two years in the Nursery at \$10 per 1000. European Mountain Ash, 6 feet high, \$18 per 100; 8 to 10 feet, \$25 per 100.

Neck Pine Strawberry plants at \$3 50 per 1000; and Hybrid Scotch Rhubarb at \$5 per 100.

Orders for the articles may be left with me

S. FRANCIS.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES SHUABERY, &c.**S. FRANCIS, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.**

will receive orders for all description of trees from the DuPage County Nurseries, L. Ellsworth & Co., proprietors. These trees are well grown, healthy, and their genuineness is warranted. Orders for fall planting can be forwarded to them at any time from June till November.

Catalogues will be furnished those who wish to purchase trees and shrubbery on application to Messrs. Francis & Barrell, Springfield.

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OF ALL KINDS.

Fairbanks & Greenleaf,

35 LAKE STREET, CHICAGO.

Sold in Springfield, by

may 1 ly

E. B. PEASE.

ELLIOTT'S**WESTERN fruit BOOK.****A NEW EDITION OF THIS WORK,**

THOROUGHLY REVISED,

Embracing all the new and valuable Fruits, with the latest improvements in their cultivation, up to January, 1859, especially adapted to the wants of WESTERN FRUIT GROWERS.

FULL OF EXCELLENT ILLUSTRATIONS,

by

F. R. ELLIOTT, Pomologist.

Late of Cleveland, O., now of St. Louis.

Price \$1 25.

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JAMES H. HIBBARD

H. G. & J. H. HIBBARD.

GENERAL COMMISSION AND FOR- warding merchants. Office, No 138 North Main Street, directly opposite Bank of the State of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.

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UHLER'S PLOWS**The Double Curved Upright Steel Mould Board Plow.****THE PROPRIETOR OF THIS SUPERIOR**

Plow still continues to supply the great demand which its merits have created. Its combination of rare advantages has recommended it to the agricultural community throughout the State of Illinois, it is now admitted that it has no equal.

The following note is but one of the many testimonials which have been furnished the manufacturer of the working of his plows.

We certify that we have lately used the above plows, manufactured by Mr. John Uhler, and we would state that they are in all respects, superior to any other plows we have ever used. We cheerfully recommend them to the public.

Wm. P. Lawson,

J. J. Short,

John W. Beck,

John Kavanaugh,

Sangamon county, Jan 1st, 1855.

From the peculiar form of Uhler's plows they are not excelled by any other now in use. It scours very bright, sheds off stubbles admirably, and runs light and easy to the team. The largest sized two-horse plow of this kind, has been used several seasons successfully in breaking prairie. The limits of a newspaper advertisement will not admit of an accurate description of these plows. To see them is to be pleased with them.

In addition to the above, the manufacturer is making wrought iron upright ones, and two-horse plows.

Also, a superior Prairie Plow, warranted to be equal to any prairie plow now in use. Any size that may be wanted can be had at short notice. A large number of all sizes, kept on hand constantly.

Manufactured by **JOHN UHLER,** Springfield, Ill., at whose establishment these favorite plows can be had, from a single one to a number unlimited.

ang4-wlv

J. C. LAMB

MANUFACTURER OF

STEAM ENGINES AND MACHINERY

OF ALL KINDS.

CASTINGS OF IPON OR BRASS,**HORSE POWERS,****STEEL CLIPPER PLOWS****BALCONY RAILING AND FENCING,****Cast Iron Fronts, Window Caps and Sills****WATER WHEELS,****GRIST AND SAW-MILL GEARING,**

AND

PRAIRIE PLOWS,

OF ALL SIZES.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., June 20.

J. BUNN,**BANKER, AND DEALER IN EXCHANGE;****BANK NOTES AND COIN,****SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.**

Particular attention given to collections, and proceeds promptly remitted at the current rate of exchange.

REFERS TO

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Abraham Bell's Sons.

George Smith & Co., Chicago.

Hamilton Bank, Boston.

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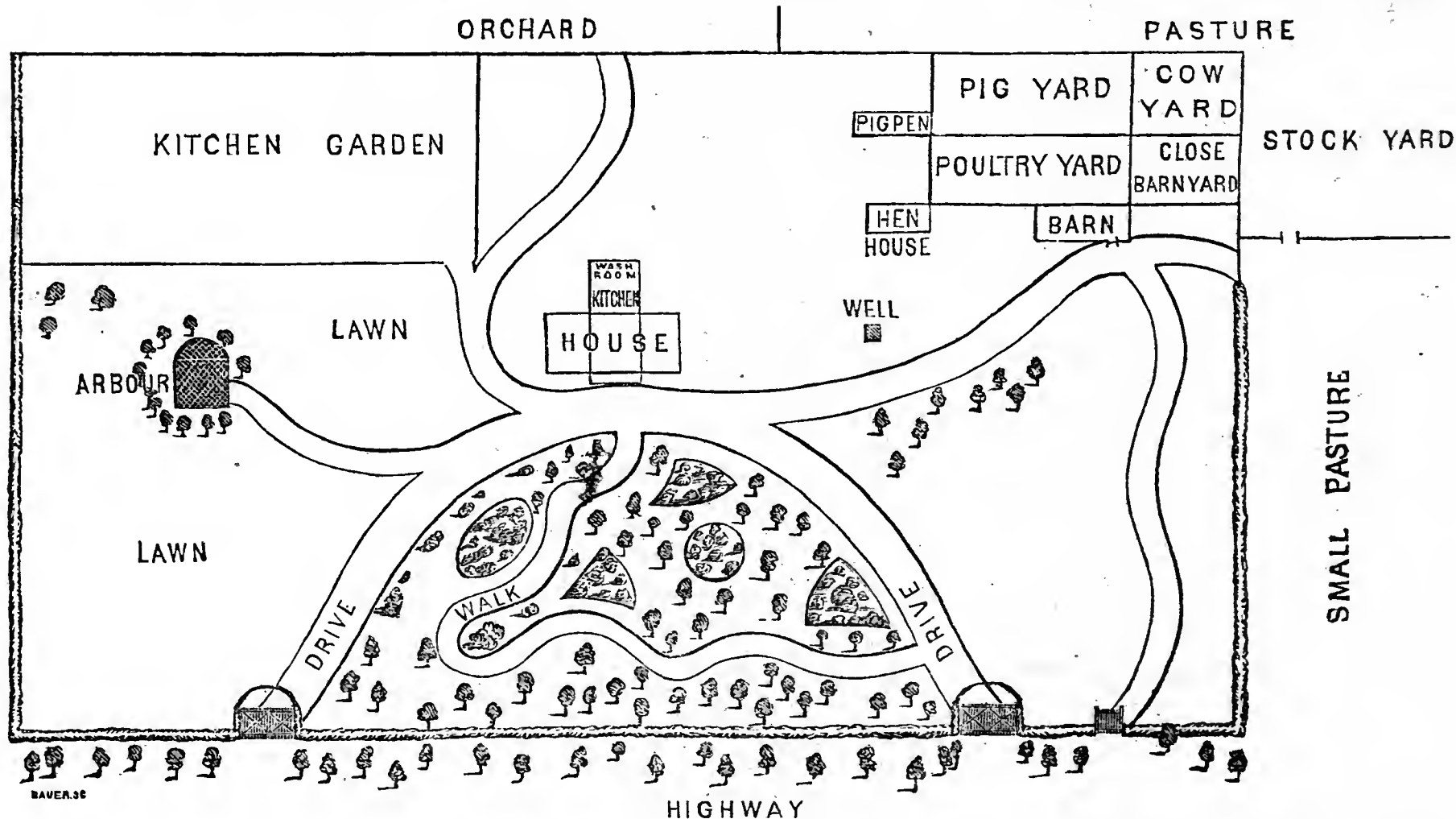
Price, Converse & Co., New Orleans.



VOL. IV.

SPRINGFIELD, SEPTEMBER, 1859.

NO. 9.



The Illinois Farmer,

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ON THE EMBELLISHMENT OF A COUNTRY HOME.

By MISS. FRANCES E. WILLARD, of Janesville, Wisconsin.

[FIRST PREMIUM.]

Were this age less utilitarian, this article need never have been written, and its subject would have been already brought from the ideal world, with which every man has communings, to the real world, in which every man labors or ought to labor. Had our subject received far more attention at a far earlier day, not so many of the youth of our land had left their homes for adventure and, we must add, in too many cases, for failure. Not so many hearthstones had been left desolate—not so many Rachels had been mourning for their children; for, on looking back from effect to cause, we see, in many instances, unattractive homes and rayless firesides as the perhaps unsuspected but no less real cause of this unfortunate desertion on

the one hand, and this lonely regret on the other.

Make home a pleasant place, and your children will not leave it. You yourself will live longer, faster, better. Your old age will be brighter, and you will ever feel the impetus for good thus given. This needs no proving. Your heart said "yes" as you made these thoughts your own.

Now, if this is a matter of such importance, it behooves every one to think and act upon the subject. To some suggestions on this point, and upon the ways and means by which so desirable an end is attainable, this article shall be devoted.

The senses, of sight, hearing and smelling, to reduce our ideas to first principles, are addressed, and are to be pleased or otherwise, in the surroundings of a home. To make the effect pleasurable, the eye must be furnished with a view of grounds, tastefully laid out; buildings of harmonious proportions

and colors; various shades of foliage, furnished by different kinds of trees; flowers, with such hues and tints as blend softly with surrounding objects, and, all combining, to give a tranquilizing effect to the beholder. This, surely, in part, constitutes embellishment.

With respect to the sense of hearing—whether the ear is pleased or otherwise—depends upon the character of the establishment one is approaching.

If hogs grunt from beneath the windows, cows make music from the garden sheep bleat from the roadside or cocks crow from the ridge-pole, manifestly these sounds would not be sonorous, under the circumstances, however interesting they might be in their proper places. So of the third sense. If the air is redolent of "reminders" of one's proximity to the stable or pig sty, in that department, evidently, the hand of embellishment has never worked its magic wonders.

Our aim is to show how those effects which are undesirable may be avoided, and those which are pleasing may be secured.

First, the embellishments of a country home, as regards sight. These occupy the widest range. Of these are the pleasures afforded by a garden, tastefully laid out, a fine lawn and a well planned suite of buildings.

If you would have a beautiful home, surround it by trees. Sprinkle, not sparingly either, evergreens around your buildings; so shall your surroundings be always life-looking, nor shall winter destroy the charm of your grounds, nor shall your eye rest only upon leafless branches, continually saying as the cold north wind sways them to and fro, that the "time of the sear and yellow leaf has come;" but an evergreen shall speak of life, of hope, of spring time and give a thrill of joy even in winter. Then plant trees, and do not forget to plant, here and there, an emblem of perpetual life. Of this variety of trees, we have found the balsam, pine and arbor vitae, to flourish best in our climate. Of other trees, oaks, maples, poplars, locusts, chestnuts and the mountain ash, are sufficient, though the more additions time and money will enable one to make to our list the better.

Vines we consider indispensable.—There is no danger of injuring the walls of a house by covering them thus. It is a mistaken idea. With our sunny climate, they are rather a protection than otherwise. We have succeeded best with honeysuckles, grapevines and Virginia creepers. They are hardier and more readily obtained than the tender and more "fancy" varieties.

Of shrubs—snowballs, syringas, lilacs, upright honeysuckles and roses.

Of bulbs—tulips, peonies and lillies, are easily tended, and are real ornaments. We pre-suppose that farmers cannot devote a great share of time to the culture of these "extras." Have annuals, if you can afford sufficient time for their cultivation, and what farmer's wife will not endeavor to?

This department of adorning should not be undervalued. Many farmers, we are aware, regard trees and flowers as of very little value; but, in reality, they are of so much importance, that their absence cannot be compensated for by any amount of additional effort which may be bestowed upon any other branch of embellishment.

Of the fence surrounding one's grounds, we believe, as a general rule, a paling fence, painted white—the chosen color of New England—is preferable.—Plant trees promiscuously outside your fence, and white seen through green and shining upon green, forms a most agreeable contrast.

Have either gates or stiles for entrance ways. For fastenings to gates, we have never seen a more simple contrivance than that made by driving a post firmly into the ground, attaching to it a chain, with a weight of some sort in the middle and fastening the other end of the chain to the gate. The annoyance so often met with of gates left open, and animals disturbing the grounds, is thus avoided.

Gravel walks seem to give more general satisfaction than any other. As it is an axiom that a curved line is more beautiful and harmonious than any other curved walks are preferable to straight ones. Thus the approach to the house becomes a continued unfolding to new sights and pleasant surprises. One does not take in the whole plan at a glance. As he advances up the path, (endeavor to have your grounds slope road-ward) unexpected pleasures meet him at every step. Here is a rustic seat, there a little arbor, beyond a tiny grove—the home of robins and orioles; then a tree taller than its fellows claims attention, till finally the house is reached—the heart of the home is seen—the nest so charmingly surrounded.

We think there are few farmers on our broad prairies who cannot afford at least four acres for a lawn, garden, &c.

Have, then, a fine, closely shaven lawn. In it arrange your trees, shrubs, &c. Make one rule: in this timberless country never cut down a tree unnecessarily. If its shape is ugly, it may, by judicious "trimming," be remedied to a great degree, and, aside from utilitarian views, it is treason to banish those hardy aborigines, the oak, poplar and their fellows, from their lawful, long-possessed domains. There is no danger of having too many trees; this is almost an impossibility. Do not trim trees far above

the ground, if at all. A tree trimmed to the shape of a lady's opened parasol, is a most pitiable and distorted object.

Carriage drives are a great convenience, both on account of their beauty and utility. A well located drive is given in the accompanying plan of grounds.

An arbor or two in one's garden is a great addition. They are easily made—the more rustic the better. Branches of trees with the bark on, a table made of rough branches covered with a rough board, seats around the sides, vines growing over the exterior—that is all, cheaply made, but a life luxury. A rustic seat, made of moss—sofa-like, but better than a sofa—at the foot of a tree, and a few rude chairs, made from those same rough branches, would be an addition—at least the tired farmer would think so, we surmise, when resting thus under the shadow of his own vine and fig tree, after a day of toil.

We have now reached the house.—Ours "faces" eastward, and we often congratulate ourselves that it does. It makes the sitting room cool and pleasant in the afternoon, and the kitchen cool and pleasant in the morning, when the work is going on and sunshine would annoy us.

We always liked verandas, with vines over them, grape vines too, if we were permitted the suggestion.

Fire places we always cling to. They make home homelier in one sense—less so in another.

A large, dry cellar and well ventilated apartments are indispensable to both health and happiness.

We believe story and a half houses are preferable for the country. A high, mansion-looking house suggests to the mind a town or city, a thought, which in such a connection, is extremely out of place. We consider stone to be the best material for a house, that is if you intend to build one which shall stand as an example for posterity—that you are willing to have stand. If your house is of stone it will need no painting, if of wood some neutral color is desirable when the house is large, but if it is small and embowered among trees, white gives a charming effect.

Further than we have we will not penetrate into the interior arrangements, more than to say, have your furniture, cozy, comfortable common. Adopt the last half of the motto of a certain gentleman of the world, who said, "When I build a house for show, I build it for show; when I build one for comfort I build it for comfort."

Passing to the barn, we shall hope to find things arranged for convenience.—Add to this "a place for every thing, and every thing in its place," and an obser-

vatory, from which to take a view of your farm at a glance, and see if "the boys" are doing as they should, or if any marauding cattle are encroaching upon your premises, and we have done with this department, except to add that the additional expense of such a fixture as we have mentioned upon a barn, will pay for itself in one year by the *mileage* it will save.

We will now introduce our plan, to show what has been considered a good arrangement for a farmer's surroundings.

[See Engraving.]

By the arrangement here represented, a large amount of convenience is secured at a comparatively cheap rate.

The yard in front of the barn should be seeded down and used only as a rendezvous for the teams, &c., preparatory to going to the fields.

The cattle yards should be dry and large. If the animals are sheltered instead of stabled, the shelter should face the south. The fence surrounding this yard should be high and tight.

Swine ought not to be allowed to run at large, except perhaps in acorn time. They should be made comfortable and happy at home, which can be done by furnishing them with plenty of food and drink and straw to sleep on.

The poultry yard should be picketed, and the fowls should not be allowed to visit the lawn or the garden, though they may be permitted to run at large back of their own yard. There can be no greater nuisance than to have fowls ranging where they will, and few greater additions to a farm establishment than a well selected, well *governed* yard of poultry.

The location of the well is a good one, being equally accessible to the barn, poultry yard and house.

The kitchen garden must be ample and of great variety. There are few things more inconsistent than for people who voluntarily renounce the conveniences and pleasures of a town for a country life to deprive themselves, through sheer neglect, of benefits so accessible and so desirable.

The planting of an orchard should not be deferred. (We are aware that we are now encroaching upon the domains of the sense of taste, in the opinion of some of our readers!) The trees will grow while their owner is sleeping. His time and attention will be only occasionally required to insure their growth and prosperity, as far as he can aid them. The labor is small, the luxury, the *profit*, very great. Do not neglect this important branch of agricultural economy.

It is manifestly a convenience to have the pasture back of the barn. But if one has no pasture? Locate your *gate*

where we have ours, and, 'hope for better things' ere long.

Swine should be kept as much in the "back ground" as possible. Indeed, all animals should have their "sphere of action" in the territory back of the barn. It is just as economical and far more pleasant. And there is no necessity for having the stock of grain placed on a range with the house, injuring irreparably the effect, and adding nothing to the convenience, that is providing the grain is drawn to the house, which should always be the case. The danger of its being destroyed by fire is far less, especially as long as the custom of annually firing our prairies continues. No time is lost in the process of drawing grain "to the house," which the time gained by being so much nearer home during threshing and storing time will not balance. Besides, the labor of drawing straw for the use of stock is saved, and the manure made by the decay of it is in an available position.

Having mentioned the principal ways in which and by which the king of senses is to be supplied with evidences of embellishment, we come to the next sense, which is to test the taste exercised in the arrangement of a country home, viz:—hearing. This field of inquiry is not so extensive as the one just surveyed.—Sounds about a farm may be agreeable which in a town would be of quite a contrary nature.

The bleating of sheep, more from the associations it brings of shade and pastures, than from any real melody in it, is a pleasant sound. The lowing of herds, the neighing of horses, the barking of dogs are pleasant sounds in their sphere, but out of it are no more suitable than "Yankee Doodle with variations" would be, pealing from a piano-forte in the heart of a dreamy forest.

But the prime object in this particular is the singing of birds. This, at least, is cheap enough. It costs only a little corn, the absence of gun firing from the vicinity of the house, and groves in which the birds may nest. Then you have your orchestra "without money and without price;" your concerts of a choicer music than a Lind or a Parodi could discourse, and the inspiration of nature too. Provide your own musical entertainments then, and they will soon become indispensable to you.

With respect to the third sense mentioned. Placing the out-buildings in the positions designated will banish all disagreeable odors, while the perfumes of flowers, the freshness of grass and the aroma of a pure air, will take their place. We do not consider it as our province to speak of the many ways in which a well regulated system of occupation, as studies, gardening, &c., will contribute to the happiness and contentment of the

inmates of all "country homes." Of the importance of these, and many other things more strictly pertaining to the internal affairs of a home, our readers are aware. We aim not now at giving hints beyond the "outward seeming" of embellishment. Of that higher, holier beauty—the beauty of a pure life and honest purpose—it is not ours to speak. Yet this is as needful, and even more needful to the attainment of perfection in a home than anything we have mentioned. Anything, be it moral, educational or ornamental, which is said, or sung, or written, the object of which is the advancement of the *home* interests of our nation, is a noble endeavor for a noble cause. Man is tossed here and there upon the rough billows of life like a ship at sea, but he is never at rest, never at his destination—still like the ships, till anchored trustingly in the quiet of home. Men prepare costly havens for ocean's leviathan wanderers—no expense is spared, no labor denied, to make them safe, secure and tranquil. Coast cities vie with each other in improving their natural harbors, and the city whose harbor is best receives the largest share of commerce. The situation of man and home is parallel to that of ship and harbor. From the one let us derive lessons for the benefit of the other. As "Heaven" is the watchword for Eternity, so is "Home" the watchword for Time.

Our Next County Fair.

Mr. Editor: The county fair usually takes place the present month. In many of our counties we have exhibitions that would do no discredit to the best fairs in the eastern States; but we can do much better than we have yet done. And I want Sangamon county to have a better fair this fall than has ever taken place here yet.

We have the finest stock in this county that can be found in the State. Old Prior's stock is here, as well as himself. Young Barnton is also here, and can bring forward to the fair a most interesting family of colts. Sangers' Morgan, too, can boast of a beautiful and prosperous family. The sires will be on the fair grounds this fall, with their progeny. It will be an interesting sight.

We shall have, too, the noble herds of Island grove and Rock Creek, and from other portions of the county. And we ought to have present graded stock in large numbers. Why is no graded stock brought to the fair? The premiums are good, and graded stock often look better than full blooded stock. This certainly has been the case. Let us see cows and steers of the graded stock present at our fair.

The best sheep of this or any other county will be at the fair. There are now in this county as good French Merino sheep as can be found.

No pains or expense have been spared to receive the best stocks. Why is it that more of our farmers do not go into the business of

wool growing. It always has paid well here; and now when the cereals are at a very low price, wool-growers are making handsome profits.

Sangamon county is famous for good swine. We have the best stock in the United States. We have no doubt but that the swinish heard will be well represented at the fair; and farmers of this and the adjacent counties will have a capital opportunity of purchasing fine animals.

We want a full exhibition in the Ladies' Department—but especially we want a better representation than we have ever had of the Agricultural products of Sangamon county. Let us have numerous specimens of potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, squashes, pumpkins, melons, sugar cane syrup and sugar, Hungarian grass seed, clover seed, timothy seed. We want the young men to do their best to fill up this department.

But our article is becoming long. We must close it. No entrance fees are charged and the premiums are good. The plate can now be seen at Chatterton's. We want 3,000 exhibitors. We want every farmer, and farmer's wife, and farmer's boys and girls to bring something. Help to swell up the good agricultural character of old Sangamon.

One word more. The grounds of the fair will be greatly improved and beautified.

OLD SANGAMON FOREVER.

Good Corn.

Mr. Editor: I am getting rid of some of the old notions which we western men have about farming. I know our soils are rich and will last, no telling how long, with proper care; but my experience is entirely satisfactory upon that point, that no soil feels the virtues of manure better than ours. I have tried it and know this fact. Last spring I manured a part of my cornfield; I put the manure on the poorest part of my field, which was a knoll, and where the soil was thinnest. Now the land on which this manure was placed, is burdened with the heaviest crop of corn I ever did see. I will not undertake to tell how much is growing on an acre; but its appearance is wonderful indeed. On the other land of this field, which was not manured, I have fair corn—good for the season.

I shall not, hereafter, as it is said Illinois farmers have done, move my stables to get clear of my manure. I shall put it upon my land. I shall be careful to save all I can, and if my neighbors, who do not believe in manuring will let me, I will haul from their piles.

Why, sir, is it not much pleasanter to gather a thousand bushels of corn from ten acres, than from twenty or twenty-five—better to get three tons of timothy from an acre than one ton?

Let me digress a moment. Many farmers have sighed because they had not large farms. Let me tell the small farmer, without much means, that he is better off with a small farm than a large one—that such a farmer is richer with a small farm than with a large one, strange as it may appear. On a small farm, well cultivated, he can make more money; on a large farm, half cultivated

and which requires hired help, he is very likely to lose money.

Mr. Editor, I like to read the articles in the *Farmer*, on thorough cultivation. This cannot be done at once, but we can do a great deal. We can surface-drain our grounds; we can plow deep, if we can make them dry by draining; we can put our seeds in well; and we can attend to the after culture. We can get, with proper cultivation, as much from one acre of land, as we do now from three. Forty acres of land well cultivated will require a large amount of labor—and will pay better than if the same amount of labor was expended on one hundred and twenty acres. Therefore, our farmers need not be ambitious to have large farms. In fact many farmers would consult their own interest by selling half their farms, and using the money to stock and improve the land, that will then remain to them. I speak now, of course, of farms of mixed husbandry, where various crops and stock are raised.

WOLF CREEK.

Whisky.

Editor of the Farmer:—Whisky is well known to be the product of corn.—This is almost entirely the case in the West. Pure whisky is not destructive to life. It makes a fool of and ruins a man, but generally a drinker of pure whisky lives out half his days.

In times past whisky generally sold for about twenty-three cents per gallon. This was when corn was worth fifteen cents per bushel. Corn is now worth seventy cents, and yet whisky is sold at near the old rates.

Persons, however, who are drinking, whisky now exhibit the proof that it is not the article of old times. Go to one of the low groceries and two drams of whisky will make a man drunk, invariably, so much so that he is robed with perfect impunity. Many men from the country have come to this city, with money in their pockets, have gone to the grocery, drank once or twice, and afterwards found themselves on their backs, where for a time, they lay dead drunk waked up to find their pockets empty their heads stolid; or, which is perhaps, oftener the case, after having drunk, are thrust out in the streets, to make their way home, or to the calaboose—to be brought up next day before a police justice and undergo the degrading operation of being fined for getting drunk!

Now I wish to come at the point of this communication. Why is it that whisky sells at the same price now that it did when corn was worth fifteen cents per bushel; and why is it that it has the effects we have stated upon the persons who drink it?

The answer is this: Corn makes no more pure whisky now than it did fifteen years ago; but it is drugged with tobacco, *Coccolus Indicus* and Strychnine, or some other drugs, so that one barrel of whisky as it comes from the distillery, will

make several; and this drugged stuff is what makes drunkards now. There is no wonder that men are brutalized and made miserable by the articles that would kill dogs and wolves, and thrown into the river, set all the finny tribes crazy with its influence.

This is the stuff, fellow farmers, that is offered you to drink at these establishments, which would rob you of your money, your reputation, and would steal from the mouths of your wives and children the food on which they live.

A WARNING.

Galls and Wounds on Horses.

GALLS ON THE SKIN.—A horse newly put to work, and working in a new harness or under a new saddle, which touches parts not inured to the pressure, is very likely to have the skin on the back and shoulders abraded.

Unless there is an absolute necessity for the animal to be used, he should in all cases, be allowed a few days rest, that the wound may heal and become somewhat hard; even then, until the hair has fairly grown out, the greatest care must be used to see that the change of the harness is entirely obviated, as when the skin is in the least sore it is peculiarly susceptible to irritation. When a gall is fresh and bleeding, nothing will soon dry it and cause it to cicatrize, as a little dry table salt sprinkled upon it.

After the wound is in a measure healed if it be absolutely necessary to use the horse, a careful examination of the harness or saddle should be made, and padding should be taken out, or parts of the leather removed, to prevent any part of it from touching the wound. To prevent friction, when caused by the saddle or collar, there is nothing so useful as a piece of raw sheepskin worn with the *flesh* side next to the horse. In riding long journeys, it is the safest plan to have such protection always under the saddle.

If the chafing is caused by loose straps striking and rubbing against the skin, they should be covered with sheep skin having its woolly side turned towards the horse.

Saddle galls are unlikely to occur, if the saddle fits the back, and is left on the horse for at least one hour (and it had better remain on two or three hours) after he is put into the stable. If convenient, he should be saddled half an hour before going out, as it is much better that the saddle should become warm, or slightly softened by the insensible perspiration of the back, before the rider's weight is put upon it.

The following is a good lotion for galls of the skin:

Sal ammoniac, 1 ounce.
Vinegar, 4 ounces.
Spirits of wine, 2 ounces.
Tincture of arnica, 2 drachms.
Water, half a pint. Mix.

If no other remedy is used, a mixture of burnt leather, gunpowder and lard should be occasionally rubbed on the gall to prevent the growth of white hair.

Sit-fasts, and their treatment, are thus described by Stenchege:

"Sit-fast is merely a name for an obstinate and callous galled sore, which has repeatedly been rubbed by the saddle, and has become leathery, and disinclined to heal. If time can be allowed, there is nothing like a small quantity of blistering ointment rubbed on; or the application of a small piece of a fused potassa; or even the nitrate of silver in substance, or blue-stone; all which will produce a new action in the part, and if followed by rest from the saddle, will generally effect a cure.

FLESH WOUNDS.—The following, on the treatment of ordinary flesh wounds, is from Dadd's Modern Horse Doctor:

Incised wounds are those inflicted by sharp instruments. On the human body they often heal without any subsequent inflammation beyond what nature sets up in the restorative process, but the difficulty with the horse is, that we cannot always keep the parts in contact, and therefore it is not so easy to unite them. * * * *

If the wound is seen immediately after infliction, and there seems to be the least probability of healing by first intention we place a twitch on the horse's nose, and examine the part. If there be found neither dirt nor foreign body of the kind, the blood had not better be washed off, for this is the best material in the world. The edges are then to be brought together by interrupted sutures, taking care not to include the hair between the edges of the wound, for that would effectually prevent the union. Nothing more is needed but to secure the animal so that he cannot get at it. If he is to be kept in the stable, without exercise for any length of time, he had better be put on half diet.

Contused wounds are generally occasioned by hooks, or some blunt body connected with the harness or vehicle. They generally leave a gaping wound with bruised edges.—We have only to remember that nature possesses the power of repairing injuries of this kind—of filling up the parts and covering them with new skin, and all we have to do is, to attend to the general health of the animal, and keep the wound in a healthy condition. Our usual application is the compound tincture of Myrrh. If the part assume an unhealthy aspect, a charcoal poultice will rectify that. If such cannot be applied, owing to the situation of the wound dress it with pyroligneous acid.—*Herbert's Hints to Horse-Keepers.*

For the Illinois Farmer.

THE SQUASH BUG.

MURPHYSBORO, Jackson Co., Aug. 2.

Kind reader, although too late to be of service to you this season, yet if you do as I hope you do, viz: preserve all your agricultural papers, what I write now to you may be of service to you next season.

Before we begin to tell anything about the operations of this too familiar acquaintance, let us take his daguerreotype that all may know him.

He varies in length from five eighths to seven eighths of an inch, and is about one fourth of an inch broad; like all other true insects has six feet, and two antennal or horns; his horns are four jointed; joints nearly equal in length; first joint, next the head somewhat enlarged and bowed, the

last joint a little the shortest and also a little enlarged; the whole length of the horn is about half the length of the insect. From the front part of his head protrudes a snout that lies, when not in use, close along the under side of his body and reaches a little beyond his middle legs; by turning up this snout or beak and looking at the under side you will see it is composed of four joints, the first joint next the head, being the largest and the same length as the second, the third joint the shortest. Over the first joint reaching nearly the middle of the second is a narrow tapering lip that protects the hair-like instruments that work inside of this beak or snout, and by means of which the insect punctures vegetables and sucks out their juices. The feet are three jointed, the middle joint being very small, the last joint is furnished with two hooks. The head is quite small, being about one fifth as broad as the body; it is about as long as it is broad, has two black and three yellowish stripes on top. Has two dark eyes, situated one on each edge of the head about the middle; back of the eyes on top of the head in the edge of each black stripe may be seen a little round smooth pimple—these are eyelets or ocelli. Going back from the head, the next piece is called the thorax, this widens in the shape of a triangle, having its back part elevated and rounded; it is of a yellowish color but so thickly punctured with dusky spots as to give it a mottled dusky appearance, the lateral edges are bordered with a yellow stripe. Behind this we find a regular triangular piece in the centre of the back, hardly half as wide as the piece in front, this piece is a little darker than the preceding; and is called the scutel or scutellum. On each side of the scutel and reaching beyond it, is a semicircular piece of similar appearance to the thorax and scutel; but by raising this with a pin we find it is part of the wing, the latter half of which is much thinner, of a dusky color appearing black when they lie lapped over each other. This part of the wing is called the membrane and has a number of nerves or veins running lengthwise across it. If we pull aside these wings, we shall find beneath them two other very thin transparent wings, of a purple color, deeper toward the tips and fading next their insertion. These wings lie in the hollow or scooped portion of the abdomen, which has its sides sharp and elevated, while in the middle it is hollow or boat-shaped, being keeled beneath. The edges of the abdomen are marked with alternate yellow and dusky stripes. The whole underside of the insect is of an ochre yellow, dotted over with dusky spots.

Now I think we have his picture so exact that we will know him, especially when I add that if handled roughly he gives out a strong odor similar to that of a pear, only too strong to be pleasant.

About the latter part of June or as soon as squash vines begin to run they make their appearance, housing themselves on the underside of the leaves, where they make love to each other, and having completed their courtship, pair. Soon after this the female deposits on the leaves a number of greenish-yellow eggs, these are generally laid during the night, in patches on the underside of the

leaves, to which they are fastened by a gummy substance. These eggs are about the shape of well-raised biscuits, and a little longer than clover seed.

These eggs soon hatch, producing pale ash colored insects, shorter and more rounded in proportion than the perfect insect—with large antennae.

As soon as they are hatched they begin their attack upon the vine, inserting their beak into it and sucking out the juices, thus causing it to languish and finally die. At this time they live in communities, which causes their attack to be more injurious; leaf after leaf fading and wrinkling from the loss of sap or moisture. And as pair after pair of the parent insects from time to time deposit their eggs upon the same plant, the injury is thus lengthened out until the work of destruction is complete. When they have obtained their full size and completed their transformation from the little wingless bug to the perfect insects and have finished their work for the season, which is generally about October, they retire to places of concealment beneath logs, under fences, &c., where they house up for the winter.

The best remedy that I know of to prevent the injury occasioned by these bugs is to kill them at the time they are pairing and before they deposit their eggs. Watch the vines carefully late of an evening, and early in the morning, and as soon as you find any knock them off the vine or pick them off and kill them. If you wait until the young ones have made their appearance your vines will be likely to die for you can do but little to drive them away, and it is hardly possible to kill them. But if you have been so unfortunate as to wait until this late hour get some unslacked lime, sift some of the finest out of it, and in the morning while the dew is on the plants sprinkle this dry lime over them, if it kills the vines, it will do no more than the bugs will do, and some times it will save them; if this does not succeed you may next try a decoction of aloes; and if this fails cut up your vines and burn them.

The scientific name of this insect is *Coreus tristis*, (De. Geer,) it has received various names from different authors—thus by Gmelin it was named *c. moestus*, by Fabricius *c. Rugator*, by Say *C. ordinatus*. It belongs to the order HEMIPTERA.

There is another bug very similar in appearance to this and much the same size; but it is a little lighter color, the hind thighs somewhat enlarged and bowed, and the abdomen is flatter and not so much keeled below as the one we have been describing.

C. THOMAS.

Sowing Grass Seed on Buckwheat Ground.

Editor Farmer:—I noticed in the last *Farmer* the inquiry whether it would answer to sow timothy on buckwheat ground? I have often done this with success. When the buckwheat is cut, it leaves the ground in first rate order, clean and light. Then sow your seed. If the crop was cut with a sythe or cradle, or reaper, you are left a guide to sow the grass seed. You need not harrow after the seed is sown.

I can recommend this plan—having often tried it. W—FF.

Trial of Mole Plows.

There has been a trial of Mole Plows in Madison county, Ohio. We did not know there was another Mole-Plow in use but that common here, until we came across the report which follows. There were four mole plows on trial; so that persons who desire to use an instrument of this kind can use their own judgement in the selection, and perhaps not pay an enormous amount of money for the privilege of use it.

REPORT ON MOLE PLOWS.

There being great uniformity in the operation and draft of the plows, the committee found it impossible to take the working qualities as a basis of the award, and therefore took into account cost, adjustability and the shape of the mole. The adjustability of the Witherow plow being very convenient in operation, and so graduated that the operator can fix at all times the precise depth, by means of a graduated scale, together with the cost of the plow, determined the committee to award it the first premium. The mole of this plow is an angular void, six and a half inches high, five in horizontal diameter, running down to a flat base of about two inches. The mole might be considerably improved in form:

The Defenbaugh machine is adjusted with regard to depth by a windlass, attached in the rear of the cutter or coulter, by which a change of eighteen inches may be made in the depth of the ditch, but the operator has no means of knowing precisely at what depth he is cutting. The form of the mole is that of an ellipse, with a flat base, from the center of which proceeds a sharp fin, downwards an inch or more. Upon the whole, the mole is rather better than that of the Witherow plow.

The Bales plow is not without merit. The adjustability is more difficult than in either of the preceding ones, whilst the mole is certainly the most objectionable. The mole is seven inches in perpendicular diameter, and five in horizontal. It is well known that a small quantity of flowing water requires a very limited channel. The mole of this plow presents the same sized channel to a small, that it does to a large, quantity of water. When water has a wider channel than absolutely necessary, it forms a zigzag course, and deposits whatever foreign matter such as sand, roots of vegetables, etc., it may bring with it, at the curves it has made in its course, and in a short time comparatively fills up from this cause. But if the channel is so constructed that a small quantity of water has a very narrow channel, and a larger quantity of water a wider channel, the probability is that the channel will be kept clear a much longer period than where a uniformly wide channel is prepared for *all* stages of water.

Although the Cole & Wall plow is defective in being readily adjusted to different depths, yet, in the opinion of the chairman of the committee, the mole was certainly the best shaped of any presented for competition. Its form is void, and has a fin four inches in depth, extending from the base downwards; this fin is about half an inch thick, and makes

a deep incision in the earth, in the bottom of the drain, thus making a very narrow channel for the water, when at a low stage. When operating two moles are attached; the first one measure four by five inches, whilst the second is five by eight inches. It is claimed that the second mole, being a short distance behind the first one; and being three more inches in perpendicular diameter, completely closes the incision made by the coulter, and thus prevents the drain from filling by substances falling in from above more effectually than the others. On account of the superiority of the mole, the committee awarded to this plow the second premium.

The Marquis, or Illinois Mole-Plow, is one among the earliest patent in this country. It is effective to inadjustability to different depths, and the shape of the mole was, by the committee, considered to be not superior in form to the Bales plow, although evidently more simple in structure, yet objectionable because it makes a drain with a flat bottom of five inches in width.

Each plow was furnished with one hundred feet of two inch cable, and each drained or ditched at about the depth of three feet, or forty inches. The length of drain which each is capable of making per day, is about the same. The character of the land on which the trial was made, may be said to consist of a stiff clay subsoil, and a rather stiff, loamy clay soil. With a good team, any one of these teams can ditch from seventy five to one hundred rods per day, in the kind of soil in which the trial was made.

The committee desire to be distinctly understood, that they do not consider these mole plows to be of any considerable utility, in any other than level, or very slightly undulating clay lands. For sandy loams, or very undulating lands, they cannot commend them. In such lands, the only method of securing the advantages of underdraining is to employ drain pipe tiles.

BALKY HORSE—BALKY MASTER.

A farmer of an irascible temper came into possession of a very fine animal, of most docile disposition. When the farmer purchased him he was highly pleased with his bargain. For some weeks the animal worked admirably, but as the owner became accustomed to the brute, his irritable temper would display itself, and occasionally in his anger he would punish him severely for the most trifling fault. In a few months the animal became irritable also, balky, and at times quite unruly. The farmer, who could not see how much injury he was doing himself, continued his brutality. The result was as might have been expected—a really valuable brute was spoiled. He became nervous and dangerous. The farmer was in despair, he would have been glad could he have found a purchaser for him at a third or fourth what he gave for him. A neighbor of the farmer, who saw how he had maltreated the beast, offered to accept him at the owner's terms, which were not hard. Now mark the end. The new proprietor was a man of kind but firm disposition. He at once commenced treating the animal as if he could be reached by reason. The horse experiencing a difference between his present and former treatments, soon recovered his

temper. He ceased to fear and tremble at every one who approached him, and in less time than it took to spoil him, he was brought back to his original docile disposition. His former owner learned for the first time that more labor can be gotten out of any animal by kindness than by brutality. But whether it mended his irritable disposition or not we are unable to say.—*American Stock Journal.*

Domestication of Wild Animals.

One of the most interesting sights in the city of Philadelphia, is the grey squirrels in their public squares or parks. One can see these beautiful animals there, at almost any time of the day, but in the early morning they are out in largest numbers. They are so tame, that they do not run even from strangers, but will come and eat nuts and other food from the hand. Thus the good people of that city have a much better opportunity to study the character and habits of this animal, than those who live in the country, and only see them in the woods, where they are to wild to wait for observation. They run all about among the grass, dig at the roots, of which they eat, and of the tender stalks. Young kittens are not more playful and frisky, than these well fed squirrels, chasing one another over the lawn, or from tree to tree. They are the delight of the children, who love to fill their pockets with peanuts, to make the acquaintance of the squirrels.

The only means adopted to keep the squirrels contented in this artificial life, is to furnish them with houses and food, as nearly as possible like what they would choose for themselves in their natural state, to guard them from enemies. In the woods we find them placing their young in the hollows of trees, to which there is access by one hole only, that it may easily be defended. The Philadelphians have put up rough boxes, of wood in the forks of the trees, and they are regularly supplied with food, when they cannot cater for themselves. Here they multiply much more rapidly than in the forest, as they have plenty of good houses, and abundant food, and no enemies to disturb them.

We think this a beautiful hint for our rural improvers, who wish to beautify their grounds with animal as well as with vegetable life. It is entirely practicable to people a grove near a dwelling with these squirrels or with other animals whose wants are as easily met. The grey squirrel is the most beautiful species of this tribe of animals, is companionable, and sprightly and if well fed would not be troublesome, to the orchards or corn fields. They are useful even after death, their skins making a valuable fur, and their flesh a savory stew, or hot pie, that an epicure need not despise. They could be made as profitable for this end alone, as the pigeon or the rabbit. They are more capable of taking care of themselves, and with suitable provision for their wants, they could be as easily kept within proper limits.

Such a grove, peopled with squirrels and birds where no dog was to bark, and no gun to be fired, would be an attraction to the children of the household, never to be forgotten. It would instruct them in natural history, cultivate their esthetic tastes, and

enlarge their hearts toward all that is good and beautiful in the world. It would form a bond of attraction to the old homestead, quite as strong as potatoe patches, and corn fields.

The trouble in many cases would be small as the groves are already grown, and the fingers of the boys are itching to make the boxes, and put them up, shall they have the privilege?

The Times.

Editor of the Farmer: It is very certain that the country is in great pecuniary difficulty, and I would be glad to see the question discussed—How it came into this situation and how are the people to get out of it?

Now, my opinion is, that one great cause for our present difficulties arose from good crops of wheat, and high prices during the Russian war. These high prices begat extravagance in various ways. It induced persons who had small farms, and were doing well to increase their farms and to buy farms, believing that if they were clearing \$20 on each acre of their wheat, they would make at the same rate if the farm fields, were quadrupled in size. They bought lands, hired labor, lived high in their families, (I mean they lived a good many on the grocery and provision stores, and dealt liberally in dry goods,) bent on improving, lost their crops, lost their credit, and many of them their farms.

But how are we to get out of our difficulties? Who can tell! We have some wheat to sell—beef and pork are falling, the great staples of the country will not bring their cost. What can be done? We know of no step but by selling our produce for the price we can get for it. If any portion of it is sent to Europe, it must be sold by our farmers very low—lower than than they can afford to raise it. We must go to work and work hard, we must live on the food we raise, we must wear our old clothes; we must sell off portions of our farms; all the stock we can; and we must pay every cent we can;—and we must be content to do so for years to come.

But, will times for farmers never be better? The prospect is, indeed, a bad one. The importation of foreign goods will keep breaking down our manufacturers in the east, and the operators there will go to work and raise their bread on their sterile lands or they will come west, and here add to the amount of produce for which we get so poor a market.

I see but two ways to change the present and perspective condition of things. One is to reduce the price of labor to the condition it is in Europe, so that our farmers can compete with European farmers in their own markets. Our people, however, do not like the idea of working for 10, 15 and 20 cents per day. That don't suit the American people. That don't please the foreign born citizens, who came here to benefit their condition. But that is one of the ways in which, after the country has been convulsed and broken up, a state of things can be brought about by which we can compete with European farmers.

There is another remedy, but politicians interfere here to prevent its being carried effect. It is governmental protection to enable our people to manufacture goods to

meet the wants of the country—thus keeping our money at home—giving employment to our people, and furnishing a home market for the produce of our farms.

I believe that one of these two systems must be adopted or years must pass before we shall have any permanent relief. W.

Strawberry Culture.

The following practical article on this subject was prepared by a correspondent of the Connecticut *Homestead*:

There is, yet, a good deal of mystery and doubt in the minds of many, in regard to the successful cultivation of the strawberry. Some of the theories put forth on this subject involve it in still greater obscurity. One for instance, tells us that the ground should be trenched two or three feet deep, and well filled with manure. Another object to all kinds of animal manure recommending ashes and leaf mold; and a third lays great stress on the efficacy of tan bark.

Now, instead of trenching the ground two and a half feet deep, at an expense of \$500 an acre, as a man recently did not a hundred miles from New Haven, or ran-sacking the forests for leaf-mold, the best and simplest way is to prepare the ground as we do for any other hoed crop, corn, we will say, applying any kind of animal manures which are at hand, and using any kind of land that will give good crops of corn.

GARDEN CULTURE.

For garden culture, August is the best time to start a bed. Our plan is to plow or fork in manure enough to get seventy or eighty bushels of corn to the acre. After harrowing and making mellow, we mark off into rows two feet apart, and set the plants one foot apart in the row. If the weather is hot and dry, they are watered and perhaps shaded. The plants are kept well hoed in the fall, and stimulated with soap-suds or liquid manure, and if attended to will make runners, and form beds or belts a foot wide by winter. They are then mulched with straw, and if it is not blown off they will need no more attention until after picking. They are then cleaned out, and kept free from runners until fall. We then give them a top-dressing of manure, and mulch as before.

The next season, after bearing, it is generally best to fork up the alleys and part of the beds, leaving a narrow belt of plants to fill up with runners. After these are set the belt of old plants are forked under, and this used as an alley.

If pistillate plants are used, we set one fifth of staminate to fertilize them, commencing with a staminate on the outside then five rows of pistillate, then a staminate, and so on.

FIELD CULTURE.

For field culture, or where we cultivate by the acre, our method is somewhat different. In this case the plants are set in April.—Green-sward will do for this, if carefully turned under, and the top made mellow. But we prefer land that has been used under a hoed crop the year previous. We manure and plow under the same as for garden culture, harrow and roll it, and then mark off into rows four feet apart; we set the plants from eighteen inches to three feet apart in the row; three feet is near enough for the

strongest growers, while the less rampant varieties will need to be set nearer, the object being to get the beds well filled with plants, and at the same time avoid the necessity of thinning out. We keep them clean with the cultivator and hoe until July. After that the hoe only is used—letting them form beds three feet wide. Should the soil be gravelly, or of such a nature that it will not hold manure, a good plan is to manure it just enough in the spring to ensure a good growth of plants, reserving the remainder for a top-dressing in the fall. This is an excellent protection from the frosts of winter, and the spring rains will carry the soluble parts to the roots of the plants, at the very time they most need it. For field culture, we never get two crops in succession on the same piece of land. We think it cheaper to start a new plat than to clean and take care of the old one. When plants are set in the spring, the fruit stems should be cut off if we wish to have them make runners.

Early Corn.

Mr. Editor:—I recollect that last spring, in view of the scarcity of corn, that you recommended the planting of early corn, so as to promise food early in the fall for fattening and feeding stock.

Some days since (14th August,) I passed the farm of Mr. Howlet, a few miles North of Springfield, and North of Sangamon river, where I found a large field of eight-rowed yellow northern plant, and also another large field of King Phillip corn, perfectly hard and ripe; and what most agreeable and astonishing to me was, that the yellow flint corn had produced, as estimated by the neighbors, eighty-five bushels, and the King Phillip one hundred and twenty-five bushels of corn to the acre. The crops are wonderful, indeed; and Mr. Howlet has at this time ample supplies of corn for feeding and fattening stock. He intended to have a lot of the corn ground into the meal at once.

Here is a practical illustration of the benefits of sometimes going out of the old beaten track in farming.

The Yellow Flint and King Phillip corn, used for seed by Mr. Hawlet was grown in this country the previous season. These varieties now are thoroughly acclimated, and all farmers who desire an early crop for fall feeding, or to take off the land for seeding down to wheat or grasses, can hereafter procure seed from Mr. Howlet. A.

Sowing Timothy.

Mr. Editor:—I am satisfied that we do not cultivate the grasses as we ought to in this country. They furnish a very certain crop, and with little labor. I have neglected my own interest in not extending my meadows. I desire to do this, and I ask farmers who have had experience in raising timothy, what is the best time to sow the seed so as to be sure of a crop. Among your readers I have no doubt that many can answer this inquiry, and much oblige, F.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, SEPTEMBER 1, 1859.

The Times---The Causes.

It is said, that, "to know the disease, is half its cure." To understand the causes which have brought distress upon the country—paralyzing industry, embarrassing merchants, and breaking up many farmers,—may, to some extent, lead to a remedy for the evils we are thus suffering.

We believe that one serious cause of difficulty in the farming interest—and all other interests are connected with its welfare, was the high price of wheat during the War between Russia on one side, and France and England, on the other, a few years since; connected with this fact, was the excellent crops of wheat the same years. The high prices obtained for wheat and the abundance of wheat, in the time adverted to, stimulated the purchase of large tracts of land, on credit, and hiring large amounts of help, and all this mostly on credit. The same state of things stimulated extravagance in household economy. Every thing the farmer or his wife or his daughter, or boys, fancied was purchased at stores on a years' credit—expecting the same good crops and high prices, which would enable the farmers to pay for these goods. We know that the wheat crop has failed for two years to a great extent—the farmers are unable to pay their debts constantly accumulating—unable or unwilling to go back to the old system of domestic economy, which had formerly made the farmers of our country prosperous and wealthy.

Let us go into this matter more particularly. A few years ago the farmers' wives in this county scarcely ever came to town and did not bring butter, lard, eggs, domestic cloths and other domestic articles, sufficient to pay for their groceries and dry goods. It is well known that ten years ago the general merchants of Springfield were able to ship to New Orleans, butter enough to supply themselves with stocks of groceries. There were houses here that received hundreds of pounds of butter every week day, besides other domestic articles of great value. What is the condition now of this trade? Not a quarter butter enough is brought into this town for sale to supply

the inhabitants! To a prudent and economical and industrious farmer, the domestic demand for butter in Springfield, might be made a source of wealth. Yet all our cows and rich pastures, and grasses, and distress among our farmers, does not induce them to give attention to this matter. They have cows in abundance; they are not milked, but are allowed to run with their calves. We used to see large quantities of cheese brought into this market from Sangamon County; but who sees a Sangamon cheese now? Farmers wives when they came to town with their pots of butter, and their cheese, and chickens and other articles, purchased "spun cotton," and indigo and madder for coloring; but what merchant hears an inquiry for these articles now? You do occasionally hear an inquiry for cotton for working collars or other "gimeracks," which will employ the time of the mother or daughter for days, and be worth nothing after it is done. And the young women will on visiting town, see the women of the town dressed up in fancy style, expanded by crinoline, and they must imitate this tomfoolery. And their purchases show that they do it; and these purchases are not paid for by their own worthy labor in making butter and cheese and domestic cloths, but they must be paid for—if paid for at all—by the father out of the miserable sales of his wheat, or the sales of his hogs and cattle—or, perhaps never paid for until the Sheriff goes to the farm and carries out the collection law. The young men, too, are at fault in this matter. Formerly they were mainly clothed by the cloths made by their mothers and sisters,—made up at home. Now, their wardrobes cost about as much as those of the young men of the city.

We notice, too, a great dislike among our young farmers and others to bring common produce to Springfield, and sell the same in the streets. Within the last three years thousands of bushels of potatoes, have been imported into this county from the North—and thousands upon thousands of dollars have been sent out of the county to pay for them. Can we not raise potatoes in this county? Or is the business of too little importance to those who wish to raise their hundred acres of wheat, and who think it beneath their aspirations to diversify their crops?

We have been told of farmers who have large stocks of horses, which they keep from year to year, and which are not wanted for working on their farms, eating out their substance, and these are kept because they cannot be sold at fancy prices;—at the same time the farmer is borrowing money to keep along,—when, if he would sell off his stock, he would have money to lend.

The citizens of this city are supplied with large quantities of butter and cheese from the northern part of the State, Wisconsin, New York and Ohio. Our provision stores cannot obtain their supplies from Sangamon County. Sangamon County does not half supply the demand for Butter. We do not see a Sangamon Cheese now. We repeat here what we have said elsewhere. We have an abundance of cows, abundance of food for cows, abundance of help, to make butter and cheese, (we say, this, because this has been done before,) our farmers are suffering for means which they could realize from making butter and cheese—and yet, they not only fail to supply the market, but even some of them come into town to purchase Butter! Shame! shame! We cannot speak of this want of domestic economy by any other words. Sangamon County could now, with proper effort, furnish our market with double the amount of the products of the dairy that she did ten years ago. Why is this not done? Ask yourselves, farmers; you can answer this question.—Have you fallen upon some better way to pay your store bills and raise money? We ought to say that there are some farmers who have continued to practice domestic economy—who live principally on the product of their farms—and who under all the disadvantages of the season and the times, have made and continue to make money—live comfortably and independent. But we tell you that the habits and practices and extravagance of the city, carried into the country, will ever produce suffering and mortification.

The farmers who have looked to wheat as a means to pay their debts, are again disappointed by the half failure of the crop and low prices. The prices paid for wheat will not pay what it has cost; and we frankly say that we do not see any reason for a material advance in the

prices. Our impression is that it had better be sold and the money applied to the payment of debts. The interest on indebtedness and the loss of wheat will be more than equal the rise in the price. Live economically and correct the errors of the past as fast as you can.

Our merchants are again laying in stocks of goods. These stocks are small; because heavy stocks now thrown upon the country, will injure themselves and you. Buy lightly, and only when you cannot possibly get along without goods. The people of the country have committed grave errors. These errors will with the utmost difficulty be repaired.—“God helps those that help themselves.” Retrieve your errors, if possible. Do not repeat them. Let the foreign merchants hold on to their goods. Get along without them. Wear your old clothes. You have generally enough for two years. You are learning a lesson—and merchants are learning a lesson—and merchants are learning a lesson, that will be a lasting benefit to the country.

The Wheat Crop.

Our farmers have been much disappointed in the yield of their wheat.—Fields where it was confidently expended the yield would prove to be 35 bushels per acre, not more than twelve bushels were obtained. The deficit was caused, as is supposed, by frost, when the wheat was in blossom. The same disappointment is experienced by the farmers in all the counties about us.

When estimates are therefore made of large amounts of Wheat in Central Illinois, they are entirely illusory. Our wheat crop is a very small one, though excellent in quality.

In other portions of the State, North and South, the wheat has yielded well. In Indiana it is not an average crop; and the same fact may be stated in regard to Ohio. Taking the whole United States, the yield is not an average one.

Still wheat rates very low. Nor do we see any prospect of a material rise in the price. In Europe the crops are good. Europe does not want our wheat in large quantities unless she has bad crops—unless it is sold here at very low prices. It is said that in New York these low prices are touched, and wheat can

be sent to Liverpool in small quantities. We hope enough will go to cause an advance in prices here; but doubt whether this will be the case.

Farmer's Club—Meeting in Springfield July 16.

Mr. H. in the Chair:—The subject of draining by the Mole Plow was introduced. Mr. H. said he had some experience in the effects of underdraining by the use of the Mole Plow. This season he had been able to plant corn, which was now looking well on a piece of his farm which last year—being a sort of basin—could not be plowed with cattle. Indeed, his cattle came near miring in passing over it. It is now as good and dry ground as any portion of his farm.

He said that farmers, on perceiving the good effects of draining, were liable to run into extremes. Some of them believed that under ground drains could be made a mile long. He thought this a grave error. His plan was to cut an open and deep ditch through the ground to be drained, and run his mole plow from these ditches, latterly, to the distance of twenty rods. Do this and make the lateral underground drains four rods apart, and even less, and your land will be well and thoroughly drained.

On the piece he had referred to, the drains cost twenty cents a rod and the crop this year would pay for all the draining and the work in making the crop. Mr. H. said his idea was to underdrain all lands that had a clay subsoil. If they were dry and water did not pass through the drains, the air would, which would greatly benefit the land and increase the crop. Land with a gravelly subsoil, or with a sandy subsoil, could not be drained by the use of the mole plow. His experience would recommend farmers to reduce the size of their farms, underdrain their land and cultivate thoroughly.

Mr. N. said that when he went on to his farm, he found that there was a bearing orchard upon it—located on level land. It was gradually dying out.—Many trees died after the hard winters, and there were no healthy trees left. He had planted out a new orchard on high rolling land, which was somewhat protected and was doing well.

He was convinced that only by thor-

ough cultivation, the farmers would succeed in raising good crops. He had excellent soil, but a rotation of crops was the best means he knew of to succeed in always obtaining them. Plow deep, and put the seed of the weeds where they will not trouble you until your crops get a start. Farmers can cheat themselves by slightly cultivating the land, but they cannot cheat the land. If our flat lands cannot be drained we had better put them down to grass and make prairie of them again.

Mr. L. said that more hedge plants had been put out this year than in any previous year in Illinois. Some persons had failed in making good hedges by their own bad management of them; but though their cultivation was so well understood now that there could be no failure. Men who had experimented with hedges, were now satisfied and intended to surround their farms with them. By putting the ground in good order, getting good plants, and putting them in the ground well, there could be no failure. Several old fogies within his acquaintance, who had until this season, believed in rails for a fence, had within the last three months set out 20,000 hedge plants each.

Mr. F. spoke of dwarf pears for crops. He had known one man set out several hundred. Some few of them bore the first year, some the second, but most of them are now dead. He did not believe they would succeed here without the highest scientific cultivation. Our black soils certainly do not suit them. The soils on high grounds are better, and if thoroughly underdrained there might be promise of success. Professor Turner, has dwarf trees, on drained high land, which do tolerably well. His experience satisfied him that if we are to have fruit here, it is by very careful cultivation of the trees.

Adjourned.

Mr. E. Woodruff of this neighborhood has had good success in sowing timothy on buck wheat ground, after the buckwheat is taken off. He does not harrow the seed in. The ground is always in first rate order after a crop of buckwheat.

The crop of corn promises to be abundant; and as stock hogs are coming into demand at \$3 50 per hundred, corn ought to be worth about 25 cents for feeding.

Items.

Fawke's Steam Plow is to be exhibited in New York on the 21st of September; and to make experiments in plowing.

Timothy Seed does well if sowed, the present month. We know farmers who intend to prepare ground purposely for seeding down with timothy. Thorough cultivation pays well with this grass.

Orchards can be planted out in the fall to advantage, if the ground is dry, rolling—so much so that the roots of his trees will not stand in water in the winter. Apple trees three years old are of a good size. They should not remain out of ground but a few days, if possible, though well packed. This fact should induce our farmers to purchase trees from the Illinois Nurseries.

Strawberry grounds can be laid out and planted this month. If the fall season is favorable after setting out, they will bear some next season. The year after they will produce a full crop. Among the best strawberries are the Early Scarlet, the Hudson, M'Avoy's Superior, and Hooker and Wilson's Seedlings. The latter is a very productive sort, large and beautiful, but very acid.

Boys should now be selecting articles for exhibition at the County Fairs.—Have they not fine specimens of corn, potatoes, fruit, melons—calves and colts? Take such to the fair, boys.

Save your seed corn. Go into your fields and select the earliest, largest and best ears. Select from the different varieties you have planted. Few farmers now plant only one kind. There were some varieties ripe enough to feed at the commencement of last month—an object with some who had no old corn.

Don't expect to make good crops of wheat without you prepare your ground and put in the seed well,—and more especially if you sow your wheat on old ground. The plan of half plowing your land, half harrowing it, sowing the seed broadcast, and leaving the ground in a condition to be covered by water next winter—*won't pay*.

It would be well to recollect that grounds for spring wheat, oats and spring barley, ought to be plowed well in the fall. Next spring plow it shallow early, and put in your seed, and you

will be very likely to have good crops.

Isn't it a fact the present season, that the earliest planted corn is the best? A report from the office of the Society of the Farmer's College in Iowa, states, that the best crops of corn raised in Iowa last season were from *grounds which had been plowed very deep*,—say ten to twelve inches!

Potatoes are very fine in this section of the State, but the yield is small to the acre, not more than seventy-five bushels.

CUT WORMS AND CORN GRUBS.—Doubtless salt is the best remedy for this nuisance. Horace Greeley (in a letter which we find in the *Working Farmer*, with a note by the editor, advising lime and salt mixture—by which we understand quick lime slacked with a strong lime—instead of salt alone—we doubt its being any better) advises its use.—Salt alone we have used with 'first rate' results—sixteen bushels to the acre broadcast and harrowed in before planting. It is valuable as manure as a weed destroying agent, and as thoroughly disagreeable and in considerable measure destructive to cut worms, and grubs. Mr. Greeley writes thus:

"Mr. Charles Betts, in the *Ohio Farmer*, of this date, says there is no remedy for the cut worm in green sward corn, but killing the vermin separately,—a tedious and repulsive operation—that "it is worse than a waste of time to apply any nostrums, however strongly advised and recommended." I hold a different opinion, and ask your readers, who may this year be troubled with cut worms, to give the "nostrums" each a fair trial. Mine is as follows:

The moment you perceive that the cut worm is at work in your young corn, ride to the nearest point at which salt can be had, (fine, I should prefer, but a dirty, refuse article will do as well as the cleanest and dearest,) and with this salt, sow your corn field lightly, avoiding the tender corn blades, so far as practicable. Treat half your field in this way, the residue as Mr. Betts advises, and await the result. If the salted corn should seem burnt at the ends of the leaves, never mind that—the corn will be good notwithstanding. When you come to hoe if you find any wire-worms in the salted corn, give your corn field another moderate sprinkling with salt. Charge the cost of the salt and sowing, respectively to the land covered by it; and the cost of the worm killing to the other piece, in like manner. If you find some stalks killed by the salt, when you come to hoe

the first time, replace them by replanting. Measure the product of the two fields, separately, at or after harvest, if the salted portion does not yield more and better corn than the other, say I was mistaken, and that Mr. Betts understands killing wire-worms better than

Yours, ever,
HORACE GREELEY.—*New York*.

WASHINGTON'S HABITS AS A FARMER.—Washington was an early riser—often before day-break in winter when the nights were long. On such occasions he made his own fire, and wrote by candle-light. He kept his own farm accounts, posted up his books, and all the articles produced on his farm and sent to market, were got up in order. He breakfasted at seven in the morning in summer, and at eight in winter. Two small cups of tea and three or four cakes of Indian meal, formed his frugal repast.—Immediately after breakfast he mounted his horse and visited these parts of his farm where work was going on, or work was required. He had his dinner at two. He ate heartily of plain food. His drink was small beer or cider and two glasses of old Maderia. He took tea early in the evening, and retired for the night about nine o'clock.

🍷 Elderberries are about ripe. These make good cordial and wine, and dried, mixed with Zante currents, make excellent pies.—They are dried in great quantities, and made an article of commerce.

🍷 C. H. Griffith, of Shelby county, writes to the *Prairie Farmer*, "that he has in his possession a head of wheat, which has both wheat and chess on the same stem on which it grew." By all means send that specimen to the State Fair for examination.

🍷 It is understood that the Southern Horticultural society of Illinois, will be well represented in the Horticultural department at the State Fair. N. D. Ingraham, Esq., the active corresponding secretary, is visiting different portions of southern Illinois, with a view of securing a large stock of fruit of that for exhibition.

🍷 Persons who desire to cultivate blackberry plants should bear in mind that the best berries always grow in the shade.

🍷 We are satisfied that the wheat crop in Central Illinois is not yielding, on threshing, one half the amount anticipated at the close of the harvest.

🍷 Lloyd Shaw, Esq., of Tremont, sold from his grounds the present season, one hundred and forty bushels of strawberries.

Look Out for Breakers.

The papers tell that one hundred and seventy million dollars worth of British goods have been imported into this country within the last six months, against seventy millions imported in the same months the last year. It is also farther said that the balance of the trade against us, will take fifty nine millions of dollars to pay for it—a much larger sum than we receive from California within the year.

That is startling. The British do not want our wheat unless at lower prices than we can afford to sell. They want our money.

What is to become of her goods? They are to be forced by long credits, upon the merchants of the west and other portions of the United States, and these merchants in their turn are to force them on the people!

We say beware! Merchants who bring large stocks of goods to the west now will injure themselves and injure the country. Few farmers can pay their debts, and few can afford to buy goods, or more than necessity absolutely requires. Merchants will do well to heed the condition of the country.—Farmers will do well to live on the produce of their farms, dispense with every luxury possible, and wear their old clothes a little longer.

We say, let the New York merchants bear the responsibility of their impudence. Let it not be thrown on the west. We have suffered and are suffering enough already by bad crops and bad markets.

SUGAR MILLS.—There are many sugar mills now in market for the coming cane crop. Hedges', Emmerson's, White & Bargon's, Hunt's, and probably twenty others. Hedges' low priced mill, have three upright rollers. These were found to work well in this county, the last season—cost \$56.—Emmerson's is a larger mill, has horizontal rollers, and is supposed to embrace a new principle, that of expressing a greater portion of the juice from the cane without bringing out that from the joints, which produces a sort of gum and prevents chrysalization, and at the same time, gives the syrup a grassy taste. White & Bargon's mills are both horizontal and vertical. The smallest vertical will express from 60 to 80 gallons an hour, and cost \$90. Hunt's mill is a horizontal one—is very strong, simple and durable. The smallest mill will express 60 to 80 gallons an hour, and will cost \$75. These are large mills of the different kinds named. We are thoroughly impressed with the conviction that the sorgho will become one of the most profitable staple crops of the country. Our people will learn in time

the proper process of manufacturing its juice into superior syrup and sugar. When our farmers learn to make superior syrup, they will soon make good sugar. We are agents for several mills, and will explain to all enquirers the particular value of the different mills, and prices. We are also agents for Kettles, furnace irons, &c., &c. It is now time for the cane growers to make their arrangements for working up their cane.

THE ALANTHUS TREE.—Professor Hermet, a French Chemist, of Toulon, France, has made an investigation of the qualities of this tree and have found them to be poisonous. The bark contains a volatile oil, an antidote for worms, but in extracting it, it produced vomiting and stupor, in his assistants whenever they came in contact with its vapors. The poisonous exhalations from these trees may be inferred from the great number of dead flies and other insects found under them, as well as the sickening effect of the effluvia from the blossoms to persons of delicate health.

PLUMS.—We acknowledge the present of some fine Chickasaw plums, from the nursery of the Messrs. Shaw, of Tremont. They were entirely perfect. No mark of the 'little Turk,' after them. If these plums escape the ravages of the curculio, they should be extensively cultivated. They are very much superior to the ordinary wild plums of the country; in fact, they are fine in flavor and size. The young trees can be obtained at the nursery of Messrs. Shaw, also every other variety of fruit tree, of fine form and size, and at very reasonable prices. The nursery at Tremont, can supply, very readily, all demands for fruit trees in Tazewell county.

H. J. Chase, of Peoria county, has nearly a hundred miles of hedging on his farms. He has practiced all kinds of planting and cultivating. He recommends that the ridge on which to plant the hedge should be plowed deep and put in first rate order; that the plants should be placed within three inches of each other; that the weeds should be kept from among them by good attention; and that in the fall dirt should be thrown among them with the plow, and the furrow made to serve as a drain to carry off the water. One cutting down of the plants is sufficient, and this is done the second year.

The grape crop will be late in ripening this season; at least ten days later than in the last season.

Fresh grapes in winter are a great luxury. They can be preserved fresh with some care. Gather them when perfectly ripe, and without bruising. Select the finest and plumpest

bunches. Pick out all green or defective berries. Take boxes, say eighteen inches long and ten deep. Place a layer of cotton batting on the bottom. Put a layer of grapes on this, not crowding them. Put on another layer of cotton batting, and on that place another layer of grapes. Proceed in this manner until the box is filled; making three or four layers. This box ought not to be light. Place this box in the coolest place in the house, where it is dry, and away from frost. We have seen grapes kept in this manner fair and fresh on the first of January.

When is the Time to sow Timothy.

Now!—The season is very fine for sowing—The ground is in first rate order—and if sown now, it will sprout and get a good root before winter, and will not be likely to winter-kill.

Plow your ground well; harrow it well; sow four quarts of seed to the acre; then brush it well.

This is the practice of Jas. F. McCoy of this county, who has now 280 acres of land in timothy, and who has tried all the plans suggested by others for sowing timothy. His success in getting good crops of timothy is known to most of the farmers of this county.

Cultivation of Wheat.

The Genesee Farmer, has a very sensible article on this subject. It says that "wheat likes a firm compact soil." If the ground has been deeply plowed two years before sowing the wheat, it is well enough. It proceeds to say:

"We cannot too frequently repeat the incontrovertible fact that freedom from stagnant water is an indispensable condition of a good wheat soil. If the land is wet, cold and sour, a good crop of wheat, however well it may have been put in, may not be expected. If you must sow such land, plow it into high narrow ridges—say twelve feet wide—with a gentle slope from the crown to the deep furrow on each side, so that the surface water can readily pass off. Harrow lengthwise, and form open drains through the lowest parts, to carry off the water. On more porous and gravelly soils, the ridges may be wider and flatter, but it is always advisable to clean out the furrows with a plow after sowing, so that the water can pass off more readily. How seldom do we see a wheat field on which the water does not lie in some portions, presenting a sheet of ice during the winter and early spring, and bare spots or light crops in summer, but which easily be mowed by a few surface drains. If you cannot afford to underdrain, do not neglect at least surface drainage. True, it is very inadequate, but is better than nothing."

Far more timothy will be sown this fall than usual. Seed, we presume, will be plenty.

Making Butter.

As this is the season when most butter is made, some useful directions for making and treating it will not be out of place. In the transactions of the Ohio State Agricultural Society, we find some remarks on the subject, which are worthy of wide spread circulation.

Churning.—The cream should be brought to the temperature of from 62° to 65° Fahr. and churned. Experience has proved that such a stroke of the churn dash as will bring the butter in about thirty minutes, makes the best. At a temperature of about 62° Fahr., from fifty to sixty strokes of the dash per minute will accomplish this result, if care is taken to strike the top of the cream and the bottom of the churn at every stroke. If the churn be filled so that the dash cannot strike the top of the cream, the operation can scarcely be accomplished at all. Rapid churning should be avoided at the commencement though the motion may be accelerated after the cream curdles. The butter, when sufficiently gathered by churning, should be transferred with a wooden ladle to a wooden bowl.

Making the Butter.—After the butter is taken from the churn, it should be skillfully worked until nearly all the water is out of it. And here arises the mooted question, whether cold water should be used in the process; whether the butter may be washed? Experience has proved that if the milk can be expelled without water, the taste of the butter will be superior; but the butter-milk must be expelled at all events; and a free use of cold water will more certainly and speedily accomplish this object than any other means; and all other things being right, water-washed butter will be very good. The keeping quality of butter without washing is thought by many to be best.

When the buttermilk is pretty well worked out, such a quantity of salt should be added as suits the tastes of those who are to be its consumers. Some give seven-eighths of an ounce of salt to a pound of butter as a rule; it should be thoroughly incorporated with the butter at its first working. The butter must be subjected on the ensuing day to a second working; these two may suffice for present consumption, but for butter, intended to be kept, a third working on the third day will be necessary. A machine butter-worker will very much aid in the second and third workings. The great cause of butter becoming rancid is milk left in it therefore unless it is entirely removed, the butter will soon become miserable in quality.

Packing.—For keeping butter, for family use, no vessel preferable to earthenware crocks. In these pack the butter in layers of such thickness as will

be convenient for use; sprinkling a little salt between each layer, for convenience in extracting the butter for use. Continue until the crock is nearly full; then cover with a fine muslin cloth, on which place a layer of salt half an inch thick; then fill with strong brine, and cover with a lid, and the work is done.

Domestic Matters.

CUCUMBER SALAD.—Pare the cucumbers and as you slice them, score the ends that they may be in small bits, as if slightly chopped. Add some small young onions, also cut small, cayenne pepper, salt, a little ginger, the juice of half a lemon, and some vinegar. This will be found an excellent salad, and does not disagree with weak stomachs.—*Cottage Gardener.*

CUCUMBERS TO PICKLE.—Put the cucumbers in salt and water for three days;—then scald them with weak vinegar, and let them remain three days longer. Scald some strong pickling vinegar, with a few onions, black pepper, allspice, cloves, ginger-root and horse radish, pour the whole over the cucumbers, and keep them in jars, for use. *Gerkins*, which are small cucumbers, are pickled in the same way.

TO PRESERVE BUTTER FOR WINTER USE. Take two parts of the best fine salt, one part of finely ground loaf sugar, and one of salt petre; beat them well together. To each pound of butter, worked perfectly free from milk, put one ounce of this composition; work it well into it, and pack it down in stone pots or wooden firkins. Butter packed in this way will be found to equal the best rose butter, will remain sweet for years, if not exposed to the air.

TO REMOVE FRECKLES.—The best preparation to remove freckles, which are so frequent at this season, is a tea-cupful of cold soured milk, and a small quantity of scraped horse radish. Let it stand from six to twelve hours, then use it to wash the parts affected two or three times a day. Another mixture of half a drachm of ammonia, two drachms of lavender-water, and half a pint of distilled water, use it with a sponge, two or three times a day. A still simpler composition is, a quarter of a drachm of borax, half a drachm of sugar, and one ounce of lemon juice. Mix, and let it stand a few days, then rub it on occasionally.

CUCUMBERS PRESERVED.—Pare thinly the cucumbers, cut them in two lengthwise, and take out the seeds, lay them in cold salt and water, for twenty four hours, then wash them and lay them in alum water for twenty four hours longer, when they are to be taken out and drained. To each pound of cucumbers take a pound of sugar, of which make a syrup, by putting a tea-cupful of water to each pound of sugar. Skim it well, put in the cucumbers, and boil slowly, till they are quite clear; take them one and

one, lay them on a dish, and continue to boil the syrup till it is quite thick, adding the juice of two lemons, and two races of ginger. Put the cucumbers into jars, and pour the syrup over them. Let the jars be kept air-tight.

FRUIT WINES.—Almost every paper contains recipes for fruit wines. We have manufactured a few kinds of fruit wines, and this year we shall repeat our experiments with care, and be able next year to give the result with accuracy.—We have already made wine from the rhubarb, which is now one year old, and not inferior in flavor to any champaign imported. Wine may be made from the currant, rhubarb, strawberry, blackberry, raspberry and gooseberry, of excellent quality. Inferior, but quite palatable wines, may be made from parsnip, and other roots. While we admit that the true wine must be made from the grape, still for the want of a more appropriate name for beverages made from fruits, other than grapes, we call them wines. The great mistake in these manufactures is in the use of sugar of an inferior quality, double refined is not sufficiently pure to manufacture either of these wines of the best quality; treble refined sugar should be used—inferior kinds contain gum, and after fermentation, this gum becomes fetid, and its disagreeable order has to be overcome at the expense of the odor of the fruit, and therefore it never should be used. Brown sugar, of no matter how good a quality, will not make wine; for when fermented, that portion which is like molasses in flavor, if separated from the sugar, as in the process of refining, becomes a rank rum, and not sufficiently delicate as the preserving alcohol, of the result. When grapes are fermented, the sugar, or saccharine matter, is not converted into rum, but into undistilled brandy, of an unobjectionable flavor.—In making fruit wines, alcohol should never be added; a sufficient quantity will be produced by the fermentation to preserve the product, and any further addition injures the quality and arrests the fermentation. When alcohol is added, fruit wines do not improve at all by age. The common practice of racking cider, has caused many to rack fruit wines; this is wrong. When the proper amount of the juice of a fruit, and treble refined sugar in solution, is placed in a barrel with the bung loose in a cellar of even temperature, fermentation will readily commence, and will proceed until the sugar, or a portion of it, is converted into alcohol, when it will cease. The buffy coat which rises to the surface will then settle and attach itself to the cask; the bung should then be driven in, and in six months the wine may be drawn off and bottled. No alcohol will be necessary to keep it.—*Working Farmer.*

From the Freeport Journal.

A Prairie Farm.

In another place we mention the receipt of some large heads of wheat from the farm of Wm. Shannon. Subsequent to that, on Saturday last, Mr. Shannon came and invited us to ride with him to his farm and see with our own eyes what sort of crops the prairie in that section is producing—an invitation which we accepted very cheerfully. The day was a pleasant one for such a trip—being just cloudy enough to make it cool and delightful. Mr. Shannon's farm lies twelve miles south west of the city, in the heart of one of the most extensive prairies of north western Illinois. To reach it, by the most direct route, we took the Savanna road to a little past Mr. Van Brocklin's on the Yellow Creek and thence turned south, past Esquire Turncare's, going in that direction about five miles, until we reached his farm, which lies upon that road, on the left.—Some two miles this side of the farm we passed a high point in the prairie, from which, although the day was hazy, we enjoyed a landscape view covering probably a broader extent of beautiful prairie already for the plow of the husbandman, than is afforded at any other place in the country. The view extends for miles in many directions, skirted on the southwest by the Mississippi timber, on the north by the Richland timber, with Yellow Creek timber intervening, and on the east and south with nothing but the horizon, all the space being filled with as handsome rolling prairie as ever was made, dotted here and there with farm houses, orchards and gardens, and half covered with corn, wheat and other grains. The person who has never looked upon one of these prairie scenes, has no idea of the west, nor can any notion of the emotions it produces on beholding it to be correctly conveyed by mere description. It must be seen to be appreciated. Mr. Shannon's farm contains 640 acres—being just one mile square—just a section of land.

He became its owner last year, and has but just commenced making improvements and converting the prairie sod that was, into a well tilled farm. When he bought it, all but 170 acres of it, was unbroken and unfenced prairie. During the year, he has had the whole of it save a few acres of meadow, broken up, has had it all surrounded by a good post and rail fence, has planted an orchard of fruit trees, a grove of locusts, and is rapidly changing its appearance from that of a wild, to that of a pleasant homestead. To the energy, tact, and good sense of his tenant—Mr. Wm. Wimer—is much of his success justly due, as Mr. W. proves to be just the man for this important place. He and his enterprising lady, manage to carry

on his large farm, with their family of laborers, ranging in number from half a dozen to forty, without giving cause for any dissatisfaction. On the contrary, everything is managed in that systematic orderly way, that ensures harmony, and conduces to the benefit of all concerned. It was a fine sight, to look upon the work progressing when we were there on Saturday. The whole farm lies in sight from the farm house, and as we stood at that point, three reapers were in view, with attending gangs of men, in three different parts of the farm—one a full mile distant in a southeast direction, another perhaps half a mile, in an easterly course, and a third in a southwest direction, three quarters of a mile away. Still another gang of men were at work haying in the meadow bottom. Some 35 men were in employ at that time. During the week, about 40 acres a day, of wheat, had been cut, and the work of stacking had commenced. Among the stacks, was one which was larger than any we had ever seen before. It contained forty large loads of wheat, or twelve thousand, three hundred and sixty sheaves. At a fair calculation, it contains 700 bushels of as good wheat as ever grew.

Mr. Wimer says that he is satisfied that the 410 acres of wheat on the place will give an average yield of 22 bushels to the acre. He ventures the assertion after careful examination it will not vary half a bushel from this estimate. Besides the wheat, there are 150 acres of corn, 80 of oats, and 15 of barley. 20 acres of corn failed for want of good seed, the seed saved on the farm not proving quite sufficient to plant all that it was finally decided to plant. Where the seed did not fail, the corn is as good a piece as we have seen. It stands about nine feet high now, on an average, and if the season is favorable, must give a large yield.

Mr. Shannon has stocked the farm with seven or eight teams, and furnished it with agricultural implements to match. We noticed a new threshing machine, rotating, with double harrows, &c., &c. As soon as harvest is finished, Mr. Wimer said he should start the plows. It will take eight teams, about six weeks, of good favorable weather to finish that job! This gives some idea of the extent of farming on such a scale.

Mr. Shannon is a late resident of Louisiana—but for all that, he is a man of agricultural enterprise, and with the abundant means at his command, will do a great work of agriculture in our midst. He contemplates investing still more largely in this enterprise, and in spite of our detestation of his politics, we congratulate our people upon the fact that he has permanently settled among us, and will, with his capital and energy contribute to our growth and prosperity.

FRUITS INCREASED IN SIZE BY THE USE OF COPPERAS.—M. Dubreuil, a celebrated European horticulturalist, says that it has been proven, "that melons and various species of fruit trees, the green parts of which had been watered on several occasions with weak solution of sulphate of iron, yielded much larger fruits than those not so treated." He adds: "One of my pupils repeated the same experiment in 1854 and 1855 on pear trees. He gave the first watering as soon as the fruits were fairly set, in the end of June. He repeated the moistening every fortnight, i.e. the evening, in order to prevent evaporation, and that absorption might be completely effected during the night. The solution was at the rate of twenty-six grains to a quart for the first three, and thirty-five per quart for the two last waterings.—He sent us, in the end of February, from a tree thus treated, an Easter Beurre, so large that it could scarcely be recognized. He obtained like results the following season. But we doubt whether the results would not be still more successful, if the fruits alone were moistened with the solution; for then they only would experience the stimulation of their absorptive powers, and would thus draw to themselves a much greater quantity of sap, inasmuch as the absorption by the leaves would be much less intense. Experiments should therefore be made with regard to this point."—*Translation in Honey's Magazine.*

SPECIFIC FOR BUGS ON VINES.—Having seen by your paper that many truckers in your section are anxious to ascertain a simple and sure remedy to destroy bugs on squashes, cucumbers, and the like, I will give you one which is almost a specific, and within the reach of every one, especially those living on the seaboard.

Procure fresh fish—of any kind whatever, the commonest and cheapest just as good—a sufficient quantity according to circumstances, say one peck to a barrel of water. Let them stand therein a day or two, in order to commence decomposition and emit their necessarily unpleasant odor; then remove the barrel to your patch, and with a watering-pot go over your whole patch, just dampening the leaves.

In addition to driving away the bugs, your plants will become green and healthy, and soon grow beyond the reach of any future swarm of depredators. It may be necessary to use the water two or three times in the course of two weeks, but remember that every application is equivalent to a dressing of manure, which will amply repay for the labor, which is very trifling. Fresh fish offal is of equal value with the fish.—V. B. B., in *Co. Gent.*

Something for Cattle Dealers.

As this is a great cattle country, and oxen are a sort of circulating medium, we do not know that we can better fill this space than with the following article from the *Country Gentleman*:

TRAINING STEERS TO THE YOKE AND TO WORK.—It is one thing to train steers to the yoke, and another to train them to work—even as knowledge of the theory differs practically from “knowing how” and *going through with it*. As in teaching human scholars, “one thing at a time is better acquired, than a miscellaneous jumble of information, so it is in teaching steers, and the first object is to train them to wear the yoke and to obey the commands of the driver. Four pair of steers can be trained at once, with nearly the same ease as one. The first step is to shut them into a well fenced yard, with an area of from twelve to sixteen square rods, where the driver can stand in the centre and make the steers travel around. They should be kept going in pairs or Indian file, until they will allow his approach, until they learn to be handled without fear, which is an important rudiment in the education of an ox. In doing this, the same patience and gentleness should be exercised which is expected of the teacher of a school—a patience which never yields to vexation. In a short time they will allow themselves to be yoked on either side, and can be driven anywhere, in or out of the yard. Four days spent in this way, will better train steers to the yoke, than four months of miscellaneous farm service, and they will be better cattle for all kinds of teaming, and sell for a higher price. The drilling in the yard should be continued until they can be driven with ease. To learn them to stand when they are left to rest, they need hitching as much as a span of horses. When steers are trained to drive well in a yoke, the entirely different operation of training them to work should be commenced. This should proceed by degrees, with light loads and short journeys, until they give evidence of ability as well as knowledge. Oxen can be trained to work with as little expense to the natural spirits of the animal, as the horse; and it should be the aim of every ox-teamster to train his cattle to work well without discouraging or abusing them. Doubtless many of our farming readers are training steers to the yoke this season. Will they adopt the rule, “one thing at a time,” and break to the yoke before putting them untaught to drawing loads, and after a patient trial report success, or the want of it for our columns. One thing should be remembered—no farmer is competent to manage steers who cannot govern and manage himself.

Rye—Its Value.

Rye is not sufficiently appreciated by farmers generally. For winter and spring pasture it has no equal in any variety of grass, affording a full bits for cattle, sheep and hogs, at a time when there is nothing else green; and while it affords the cheapest food that can be grown for these animals for several months, it also contributes largely to their health, giving them an early start in the spring, and increases largely their value. Besides the importance of having a cheap, rich and healthy food for stock, it is of a still greater value to the land on which it is grown. It interferes with no other crop, and besides being a good fertilizer, it renders the soil light and feiable for the succeeding crop.

Corn land that would otherwise remain naked after harvest, should always be sown in rye in the fall. Land that was the previous summer in corn often suffers much from being exposed to the beating and washing rains of winter.—The soil is washed into the valleys and streams, and from beating effects of the rain, and drying wind and sun of spring, it breaks up in heavy clods that hardly become fine during the ensuing summer.

If the land is not to be sown in wheat, rye may be sown at the time of the last working of the corn in summer, or what is better it may be deferred until the corn blades begin to dry up and let the sun into the ground, when the seed may be sown and covered with the cultivator.

This will afford good pasturage during winter and spring, and the roots and blades furnish manure to the succeeding crop equal in value to twenty tons to the acre from the yards and stables for any spring crop that may occupy the land.—Besides this the decaying roots and blades tend greatly to improve the mechanical texture of the soil, rendering the subsequent cultivation more easy and thorough.

Rye is an excellent crop to succeed hemp, and whether following hemp or corn, after affording a good pasturage, a good crop of grain may be secured, if the land is not wanted for spring planting.

If our farmers would make the experiment of always sowing rye after their corn, when other winter grain is not to be sown, and mark the benefits upon the succeeding spring crops, to say nothing of the value of the pasturage, we think they would never be willing to let their fields lie naked another winter.

UNDERDRAINING.

Underdrains may now be made, and they should always be put in with reference to a general system, for the whole farm. It is best to survey the ground for this purpose, and if you cannot do it,

get some one who can. Flat, or nearly level land, requires more care in making drains, than that which is rolling. No farmer can, in this, copy another, as every farm differs in many features from all others. Some require more and deeper drains than others, and with some, the springs issue from the tops of the hills, and in others at the bottom. This depends on the peculiar geological features of the country. Drain tiles may now be had easily, in many places in this State, and at reasonable rates. They are far superior to all other material for this purpose. Be sure, in laying tile, that they are laid without any depression, where the water will be sure to repose its sediment, finally filling up the drain. Roots of trees or vines, planted near such drains, are also very apt to enter and choke up. They should always be laid deeper than the frost can reach, during the most severe seasons. Many American farmers err in making their drains too shallow. Don't be afraid that they are *too deep*. We have never heard of any such.

When tile draining was first begun in Great Britain, the drains were dug from one foot to eighteen inches deep; but at the present time, two feet six inches, is common, and even three or four feet. Don't think that because your soil is a stiff clay, the water will not reach the drain, if sunk deep. Did you ever dig clay that was not wet, at every depth, during spring? The size of your main drain depends on the amount of water that is required to pass through it; but it should not be larger than necessary. Two inch tile is generally used for the branches, but when placed near each other, an inch and a half is large enough; but in every case, the size and number of drains should be sufficient to carry off surface water thoroughly and rapidly. —*Ohio Farmer*.

Regulations for the Inspection of New Winter and Spring Wheat.

The following preamble and Resolutions were adopted by the Board of Directors of the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago at a meeting recently held at their rooms:

WHEREAS, The quality of the new crop of wheat surpasses that of any of the past ten years, and whereas the new crop of Spring wheat is more uniform in its character than heretofore; therefore

Resolved, By the Directors of the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, That the grades of wheat be re-established as follows:

No 1 WHITE WHEAT—The berry to be plump, well cleaned, and free from other grains.

No 2 WHITE WHEAT—To be sound but too dirty for No 1

No 1 RED WHEAT—The berry to be plump, well cleaned, and free from other grains.

No 2 RED WHEAT—To be sound, but too dirty for No 1.

REJECTED WINTER WHEAT—Unsound and unmerchantable wheat, and to weigh 45 lb to the measured bushel.

No 1 SPRING WHEAT—The berry to be well cleaned, free from other grains, and to weigh 55 lbs to the measured bushel.

No 2 SPRING WHEAT—To be sound Spring Wheat, but too dirty for No 1 and to weigh 52 lbs to the measured bushel.

REJECTED SPRING WHEAT—All unsound, unmerchantable Spring Wheat, and must weigh 45 lbs to the measured bushel.

Resolved, That the above grades take effect on and after the 15th inst.

SETH CATLIN, Sec.

The early May wheat seems to have done better in Central Illinois the present season than any other variety. Information from our farmers on this subject would be of great value.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD SCALES.—It is no small and unmeaning term to apply to the Fairbanks Scales the term of "Standard," since they have earned and won it through the Messrs. Fairbanks' thirty years of experience in scale manufacture. A standard they are to the manufacturer, as all can attest, who have been brought into communication with rival scale makers and venders. "As good as Fairbanks'," "just the same as Fairbanks'," "precisely what the Fairbanks' claim," are phrases familiar to many ears, as our readers will bear us witness. To be thus referred to by your rivals is no small praise. "Imitation is the sincerest flattery," and we make the application not invidiously, but only so far as the makers of other scales may choose to render it of force by their own assertions.

There is a fuller and more wide significance in the term 'Standard' when it goes out into the world of buyers and sellers, and sees how implicitly the 'weigh' of the Fairbanks' scale is accepted as the 'weigh of truth' and accuracy. The farmer who weighs his beeves or his produce on his Fairbanks' scale at home accepts never, uncontested, any corrections in his figures from warehouse men and city dealers who may use other scales, and if the contestants fail to agree, away they go to Fairbanks' scales to set the matter right.—*Chi. Press and Trib.*

COMMERCIAL.

Springfield Market--August 30.

WHEAT—70c@80c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; FLOUR—\$4@50 $\frac{1}{2}$ brl; CORN—60c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; scarce; CORN MEAL—80c to \$1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; OATS—25c@30c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; BEANS—50c@51 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; BRAN—10c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; SHORTS—10c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; TIMOTHY s'd—\$1 60 to 1 75; HUNGARIAN Gr s'd—none. MILLET—None; CLOVER—\$6 50@7 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; POTATOES—New, 40@50c; HAY—\$8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton; TALLOW—9c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; SOAP—bar, 4 to 6c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; CANDLES—12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c $\frac{1}{2}$ box; PICKLED P'K—\$8@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100; BACON—hams 12 to 15c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; CHICKENS—\$1 50@1 75; BACON—sides 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; EGGS—6@8c $\frac{1}{2}$ doz; LARD—12c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; SUGAR—8c@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; COFFEE—13c@15c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; MOLASSES—45c@60c $\frac{1}{2}$ gal; SALT—\$1 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ sack; *ALT—\$1 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ brl; MACKEREL—12c@13c No 1; CODFISH—\$5 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 lbs; APPLES—dried, \$3 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; WOOD—\$3@4 00 $\frac{1}{2}$ cord; COAL—12c $\frac{1}{2}$ bu; WHISKY—27@30c $\frac{1}{2}$ gal; VINEGAR—10c $\frac{1}{2}$ gal; BROOMS—\$1 50@2 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz; BUTTER—15 $\frac{1}{2}$ c@20c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb; HIDES—Dry, best, 14@16c; HIDES—Green, 6c; APPLES—green; 4c@75c;

Chicago Market--Aug. 29, p. m.

The receipts of wheat to-day showed a falling off of about 18,000 bushels. This fact, coupled with an active shipping demand, caused the market to open firm, and advance $\frac{1}{2}$ @1c before the close. Upwards of 70,000 bushels of all grades changed hands, at \$1 05 for No. 1 white on track; 92c for No. 1 red on track; 75@76c for No. 2 red in store; 60c for rejected red; 73@74c for No. 1 spring; and 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ @71c for No. 2. Spring closing quiet at 73c for No. 1, and 70c for No. 2 spring. Winter grades were quiet and inactive. Flour was active and steady. About 900 bbls changed hands at \$3 75@4 00 for good to choice spring extras; \$2 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ for fine spring; and \$5 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ for a small lot of extra choice white winter corn d. lined 1c. About 40,000 bushels changed hands at 69@69 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for canal float; 59c for No. 1 in store; 57c for No. 2—closing dull and weak. Oats were in fair demand and steady at previous prices. About 20,000 bush were sold at 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ @26 $\frac{3}{4}$ c for No. 1 afloat, and 25c for No. 1 in store. Rye quiet at 54c in store.

Saint Louis Market--August 29, p. m.

Wheat, which seems to have had rather a capricious course of late, maintained that character again to-day, inasmuch as prices went up about five cents per bushel on nearly all qualities. The very moderate amount of 5,000 bags, received since noon Saturday, is chargeable with the improvement. The market moved buoyantly also up to 'Change close. In flour there was a heavier inquiry, and while a sale or two of city superfine was quoted at the price previously paid, four or five thousand barrels, chiefly extras, were bought for future delivery, at prices not made public. Oats improved a little, through light deliveries and lower freights. In corn, whisky, tobacco and hemp, no change at all was observed.

St. Louis Live Stock Market--Aug. 27.

Bellevue House, Manchester Road.

Market is overstocked with light and inferior cattle, and sell ing at very low rates from \$10@20 per head; good fat cows will bring from \$22@27 per head.

Best class of steers sell slowly from 6@6 $\frac{1}{2}$ but few at the latter figure.

Sheep—A fair supply on the market, good sheep are ready sale, at \$2 50@3 per head; common to fair \$1 25@1 75 per head.

Hogs—Are scarce, but slop fed hogs on the market, and bring from 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ @7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Cows and Calves—There is but little inquiry owing to the southern market being overstocked, there being but few

selling at over \$30 per head—common to fair from \$15@25 do.

St. Louis Horse Market--August 27.

Supplies of horses have been somewhat larger the past week; but mules continue scarce, about 40 head, mostly horses, purchased in this market, have been shipped south. The demand has been good and prices about the same as last week. 81 head were sold at auction and private sale, and 42 head were left over.

New York Cattle Market--August 24.

BEVES—The market has advanced this week on the good and prime grades of Cattle $\frac{1}{4}$ @ $\frac{1}{2}$ c $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in addition to a full allowance of weight in the owners favor. The quality was better than for two months past, yet the demand being for the better grades the supply of the class of stock was still inadequate. We quote at 6@10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, a few at 11c, and also some few at 6c. At Bergen, N. J. 1086 head were sold at rather better rates than were realized here. This place seems to be increasing in favor with the Butcher as well as the Drover. The accommodations are generally satisfactory. The receipts have been:—From New York 520 head, Pennsylvania 42, Ohio 559, Indiana 527 Illinois 701, Kentucky 500, Iowa 25, and Michigan 16. The conveyances were:—By Erie Road 1420, Hudson 842, Harlem 104, and Hudson Boats 434. The attendance at the Washington Drove Yards was good all day, and before leaving all the stock will doubtless be sold.

QUOTATIONS.

The following are the prices at which stock was sold:

BEEF CATTLE.

Prem. quality, per cwt.....	\$10 50@—
Prime do do	11 00@10 00
Ordinary do do	9 75@10 25
Common do do	8 50@9 50
Inferior do do	6 00@8 00

MILCH COWS—The business is confined to small sales to milkmen at our annexed quotations. The supply is ample.

Best quality.....per head.....	\$50 00@60 00
Good qualities.....do	40 00@45 00
Fair qualities.....do	30 00@35 00
Common qualities.....do	20 00@25 00

VEALS—The market has been fairly active at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ @7c.—The supply is larger. Included in the receipts, not indicated by our tables, were a considerable quantity of carcasses Veal, from various points on the Hudson River, brought in every morning by barges and steamboats.

Sheep and Lambs—The receipts are ample, yet the demand for good Sheep is active and prices are no lower. Some few poor quality remain unsaleable. Lambs are doing well.—The receipts continue liberal. At Brownings', 3,893 head were from New York State; 1,372 from New Jersey; 130 from Pennsylvania, and 397 from Canada. Sales by J. C. Larkin of 1,387 head for \$4,655 48; by Thomas C. Larkin, 2,421 for \$7,547 35; by R. H. Hume, 1,559 for \$4,817 47; and by McCarthy, 978 head at \$2 50@3 4 each. Sales also by McGraw and O'Brien 2,281 head for \$7,081 67. We quote:

Prime quality, per head, (extra).....	\$4 50@7 00
Ordinary, per head.....	3 50@4 00
Inferior, per head.....	1 50@3 00

SWINE—The market has suddenly taken an upward tendency, and prices are $\frac{1}{4}$ @ $\frac{1}{2}$ of a cent higher, caused by a falling off in the supply, and the heavy rise in the price of Mess and Prime Pork. At the Western yards 1434 head were received. At the Hudson River 861 head. We quote prices at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ @6c gross, for prime Western corn fed; store hogs are scarce and nominal.

RECEIPTS AT WESTERN YARDS:

By Hudson River Road—Van Brunt & Watrons, 449; N. Bloss, 163; G. Wells, 287; H. Hogeboom, 115; Terry & Pendall, 103; Smith & Brown, 92; A. Reed, 112—total, 1321.
By Erie Road, via Bergen—J. Postlewaite, 113.

RATS.

A MOST NOVEL STRATAGEM FOR TAKING RATS by wh. lesale, without poison or traps! Ships, Mills, Barns, Stables, Groceries, Worksteads, Houses, cleared at one sweep. Any person can, by this simple arrangement, clear the entire premises of every Rat, however numerous they may be. Sent free by the return of post for One Dollar, by
JOHN CALCOTT, JR.,
sept 1st EMP 72 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, L. I.

Hunt's Sugar Cane Mill and Boiler.

THIS MILL IS JUST THE ARTICLE wanted by farmers; a cheap, strong, simple and effective horizontal Sugar Cane Mill. The boilers which can be had with the mill, are of these sizes and prices: No 1, 22 gallons, \$6; No 2, 30 gallons, \$7; No 3, 45 gallons, \$8; No 4, 60 gallons, \$9.

The large bills, giving sizes, prices, &c. can be seen in the office of S. Francis, who is authorized to sell the Mills and Boilers. We refer applicants to him for further information.

sept 1st

Louisville, Ky.

Bloomington Nursery, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS.

Eighty Acres Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

200 NAMED SORTS TULIPS, ALSO

Hyacinths, Crocus, and a general assortment of Bulbs and Flower Roots for Fall and Spring planting. Nursery stock, Evergreens, Greenhouse and garden plants—all at wholesale and retail at lowest cash rates.

For particulars see Catalogues or address subscriber.

F. K. PHENIX.

Bloomington, Ill., August 1, 1859.

FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR

OF THE

ST. LOUIS AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL ASSOCIATION.

To commence September 26, 1859, and continue SIX DAYS.

\$20,000 to be given in Premiums.

AMONG OTHERS ARE THE ST. LOUIS

Prizes viz:
No. 1. For the best thorough-bred Bull.....\$1,000
No. 2. For best Roadster Stallion, in harness..... 1,000
No. 3. For best thorough-bred Stallion..... 1,000
Arrangements have been made for the most brilliant exhibition ever witnessed in this country.

The grounds embrace 50 acres of land, covered with blue grass, ornamented with forest trees and evergreens, winding avenues, and nine beautiful fountains.

The Amphitheatre, much the largest in the United States will seat 12,000 persons, and shelter as many as 36,000. There are also Floral, Fine Art, and Mechanical Halls, and a spacious building with steam power attached a Gallina lum with 90 compartments, for the exhibition of Poultry, and a beautiful cottage for the accommodation of ladies.

A Horse Railroad will convey persons to and from the Fair at 20 cents a piece.

Competition invited from the whole Union, and no Entry Fee charged.

Persons desiring stalls should lose no time in engaging them.

Office of the Association, No. 65 Chestnut Street.

J. R. BARRET, President.

aught!

G. O. KALL, Secretary.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD OWN AND READ "PLAIN AND PLEASANT TALK ABOUT FRUIT, FLOWERS AND FARMING." IT GIVES VALUABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUCCESSFUL CULTIVATION OF WHEAT, CORN, RYE, OATS, FRUITS AND FRUIT TREES, &c. THE PROPER MANAGEMENT OF CATTLE, A LIST OF CHOICE SEEDS, FRUITS AND FLOWERS. HOW TO TRANSPLANT AND PRUNE TREES AND VINES, GRAFTING &c.

"PLAIN AND PLEASANT TALK ABOUT FRUITS, FLOWERS AND FARMING," WRITTEN BY HENRY WARD BEECHER, WHO TO HIS ALREADY RENOWNED REPUTATION AS A PREACHER, ORATOR AND AUTHOR, MUST NOW BE ADDED THAT OF A PRACTICAL FARMER AND GARDNER—FOR SUCH HE IS AND HAS BEEN. 1 VOLUME, PRICE \$1.25. FOR SALE BY ALL BOOKSELLERS AND AGENTS, OR SENT BY MAIL, POST-PAID, ON RECEIPT OF THE PRICE, BY

DERBY & JACKSON,

August 1—1t Publishers, New York.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBBERY AND EVERGREEN TREES,

with a general assortment of Nursery articles for sale at the Pleasant Ridge Nursery, Arispe, Bureau, county, Ill. Very Aldrich, proprietor. I have a few thousand 6 year, 15,000 five year, 30,000 three year, 50,000 two year, and 100,000 one year old apple trees, at wholesale or retail. Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Strawberries, &c. Our stock of Evergreens is large, and very fine specimens: the N. Y. Pippin, Wagner, and Red Seekno further, are the most hardy in the list, of which I have a good supply, also of the Tompkins county King. Catalogues sent free. P. O. address, Tiskilwa Ill.

Wheat Drills.

BREAKING PLOWS, BROAD CAST SOWERS. For sale by S. FRANCIS.

WESTERN TREES FOR THE WEST,

AT THE

WOODBURN NURSERY!

PERSONS WISHING TO PURCHASE

their Fruit Trees, Shade Trees, or Shrubbery, will find it to their advantage to order at the above named Nursery.

We have for sale Thirty Thousand of 5 to 7 feet high, choice Apple Trees, of some fifty approved varieties, for Western culture; which we can with confidence offer to the public.

We also offer a good assortment of Peaches, Pears, (Dwarf and Standard,) Cherries, Plums, Quinces, Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Lawton Blackberry, Strawberries, Rhubarb, or Pie Plant, &c.

3,000 SILVER-LEAVED MAPLE.

Than which a handsome Shade Tree cannot be found.—They are eight to ten feet high, of thrifty growth, and to be had for ten dollars a hundred.

We will sell the above named Trees and Plants as reasonable as they can be had at any respectable Nursery—distinctly labeled, and carefully packed and delivered at the Nursery, or at the Railroad Depot.

We desire and shall aim to conduct our business, in all respects, satisfactorily to those who favor us with their patronage. We are permanently engaged in the business, and intend to make it to the interest of our friends to call on us.

JONATHAN HUGGINS.

Woodburn, Macoupin County, Illinois.

Aug 1

1768-1769

NO. 19.

In locating an orchard, the first object—and a most important one—is to select an eligible situation. An elevated or rolling situation is greatly to be preferred, and if the aspect is northern, all the better; but as such a site is not always to be obtained, yet a level or less propitious one may be rendered nearly equivalent by thorough underdraining and subsoiling. Indeed, this system of preparing orchard ground, whether high or low, cannot be too strongly recommended, for, though it need upon high ground is not so absolute as upon low, yet all situations, high and low, will be greatly benefited by it. It is worthy of remark that the best *natural* situations for orchards to be found in our country are in the “barrens” and the timber, on the clayey ridges and gravelly slopes. On such localities we have generally found the hardest and most productive orchard trees. The proprietor should select the most eligible spot on his premises for the orchard, and what it lacks by nature he must endeavor to make up by art. Whether the ground be underdrained or not, the deep plowing or subsoiling should in no case be dispensed with. Perhaps the most effectual way to do this is as follows: Use two strong teams; with the first a No. 6, old ground plow, set to run deep as it can be drawn; with the second team use a No. 5, corn plow, set also to run deep; follow with it in the furrow made by the first team at a brisk walk, and you will throw up the subsoil and deposit it upon the surface. In this way we have sometimes trench plowed near twenty inches deep; but it requires stout teams, and bright, scouring plows. The fall previous to planting is the time to do this, but if it has been neglected, it is better to do it in the spring than omit it altogether, for no opportunity for thoroughly subsoiling the orchard ground is ever afterwards expected to occur. Another method of subsoiling is to break up the subsoil as deeply as possible, and let it lie

without turning it up. For this purpose the Michigan double or subsoil plow is used. The ground being thus thoroughly prepared, let it lie so till time to set the trees. Since the severe winters we deem it unsafe to recommend planting in the fall. Though the fall season is the better time to procure your trees, they should be buried till spring; but in case they have been procured in spring, (and it should be early,) the first thing to be done after unpacking is to examine the roots, and if in good order, cut off smoothly with a sharp knife, from the under side all the roots that have been bruised or mangled in taking up; also, shorten, in the same manner, all the long and straggling roots to eight or ten inches. Next, have a hole in the ground a foot deep, filled with mortar or grout, made of equal parts cowdung and clay, into which plunge the roots, so as to give each one a coating of the mortar. Dig a trench, in which place the trees, in a sloping position, with the tops to the north; cover the roots securely; and let them so remain till the buds begin to burst into leaf. In this position the sap will flow more readily and the leaves put forth earlier than if they had been planted at once in the upright position; and there is a material advantage in having the trees started before setting, provided they are carefully handled in the removal.

Trees not exceeding three years old are considered safer to remove than those that are older. They should be thrifty, well grown, stocky, with low heads and sufficient roots. The proper time for planting will be indicated by the buds bursting and showing the points of the leaf half an inch long or so. The ground may then be harrowed smooth. In the next place it must be squared exactly, if you would have the rows range in every direction. Procure as many stakes as you have trees to set—straight corn stalks or hazle rods three feet long. If your ground is square, by carefully measuring you can set the stakes so they will range perfectly. The proper distance apart is about thirty feet, or about fifty trees on an acre. The planting is very much facilitated by the use of a very simple contrivance, called an index board, or "replace." Take a strip of board, say six feet long, five inches wide and one inch thick, saw a notch in each end and one about the middle, on the edge, and it is made. By its use one can plant alone, without an assistant to hold up the tree or sight. Procure two or three dozen pegs, six or eight inches long, lay the board down by the side of the stake so it will fit into the middle notch, then stick a peg down in each notch at the ends, raise the board and proceed as before, till you have pegged a row or two

of stakes. With the spade mark out the size of the hole around the stake as its centre. The hole may be three feet wide and some eighteen inches deep. In digging the hole the subsoil or under clay should be thrown aside. Fill the hole, partially, with rich top soil and tread it firmly, to keep the tree from afterwards settling down. Put down the board again and fit it on the pegs, set the tree in the middle notch, let the top incline a little to the southwest. Spread out the roots in their natural position, let them be but an inch or two deeper than they stood in the nursery, with the fingers compress upon the rich, moist soil around and amongst all the roots, fill up with rich mold to the top and tread it firm around the tree. Finish the planting by using the under soil or clay to make a mound around the tree, three or four inches high, and grade it down to the edge of the border. By following out these simple rules your planting will be done on "scientific principles." If the weather should be dry after planting, water thoroughly once, and cover the border around the tree with old straw or litter two or three inches deep. This will keep in the moisture and keep down the weeds at the same time.

So soon as the sap begins to flow freely, shorten all the leading branches and shoots, by cutting back at least half the previous season's growth. With careful cultivation there is not, perhaps, a more favorable crop amongst small trees the first year than corn, as it affords them about the requisite shelter from the fierce sun and the strong winds. The corn should not be planted nearer to the trees than four feet, and it is better to cut it up in the fall for feed in order to get the stalks off the ground. The insects that require watching, even the first year, are the leaf roller, the aphid, the slug worm, the various tribes of caterpillars, and occasionally the tobacco worm. As most persons are familiar with all these and their various capacities for mischief, it is deemed unnecessary to describe them here, but we would exhort the tree planter to keep a sharp look-out for them and promptly destroy or remove them from the tree. The trees, if not mulched, must have clean culture, but will not need a touch of the knife the first season. Before winter sets in a small, sharp mound of leached ashes or soil should be raised around each tree, say six or eight inches high. This will brace the tree somewhat and prevent the tree from harboring at the root. A few strong weeds or split corn stalks, two and a-half feet long, stuck in the ground around the tree and tied at the top will keep both mice and rabbits from gnawing the bark. A coating of long manure, three or four

inches deep, will protect the roots from the severity of the winter and enrich the ground. This should be removed in the spring, also the mound from the root. So soon as the bud begins to burst wash the trunk and main branches with strong lye, applied with soap suds every two weeks till midsummer. This practice continued through subsequent years will more effectually ward off the apple borer than any other method we have yet tried. A very good plan is to give the trees an annual coating of soft soap, diluted with water. It should be put on before the leaves appear in the spring. For the second, third and fourth years it is better to plant the ground with potatoes, vines, or some other low running crop. Cultivate thoroughly till midsummer, but do not stir the ground later.

The great secret of success in raising HARDY TREES is to push them forward as early and as fast as possible for the first half season and to check them up in the latter part, to permit the trees to harden up their wood and buds and prepare for winter. This is more effectually done by sowing oats thickly around the tree about the middle of August, but if not carefully removed before winter it will harbor the mice. The second summer a little attention should be paid to the training and forming of the head, but the knife should be used with discretion. Often more injury results from injudicious pruning than from any other *barbarity*, except the sowing of small grain or timothy seed among the trees. The adoption of the latter course will insure success, if you wish to *murder your orchard by inches*, especially if applied before the trees are ten years old. Cut while the branches are small and the vigor of the tree will not be sensibly checked. Take out the limbs that are likely to cross and thin out the clusters, train the top into a low, spreading, well balanced head, with an open centre. A very little trimming each year will be required to form the head into the required shape, without the necessity of cutting out a branch of over half an inch in diameter; but if a larger one should be taken off the wound should be covered with a coat of grafting wax or white lead paint. The "ground suckers" should be taken close, as often as they appear. The side shoots may be shortened, but should not be cut off close till the tree has acquired a steady, tapering trunk. In close trimming make a smooth cut, outside of the ring or swell at the base of the shoot or branch and parallel with it. In a prairie orchard, especially, the lower limbs should not exceed three feet from the ground, on an average; some should be lower, and some may be higher, according to the character of their growth.

With low, spreading heads the trees are much less affected by the winds and by the severity of the winter; besides, they bear better crops and finer fruit, and the fruit is much more accessible. No need of running the plow under the tree or close to it. If low trained its shade as a fertilizer, with the requisite mulching, better than frequent stirring of the soil. Very thrifty young orchards are generally tardy in commencing to bear. In such cases we have successfully brought the trees into a bearing condition by seeding the orchard down to clover, but care is necessary to keep the ground free from the sods for four or five feet around the trees, either by mulching or stirring the surface. As the trees grow older, the tendency to rough, scaly bark and moss increases. These should both be scraped off whenever they appear. Even old orchards require a deep stirring up at least once in two or three years. It is a good plan to sow buckwheat in the orchard, and in the fall turn in the hogs to devour the grain and fallen fruit. Enough grain will be left on the ground to seed it another year, and the straw will keep the ground loose and moist. If the ground becomes exhausted it must be well manured all over. Feed your trees, and they will feed you. The most dreadful enemy of the apple orchard is the borer. In his case, as in most others, an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure. Look sharp for him in May and June, wash frequently with soap suds, &c., put leached ashes and old lime around the tree, and you need not be much troubled with him; but if he once gets in he must be cut out, or he will cut himself out, and perhaps carry the life of the tree with him.

SUGAR AND EVAPORATORS.

Report of the Committee at Freeport Fair.

The undersigned, appointed, together with Gen. Wm. Duane Wilson, of Iowa, a special committee to examine and decide upon the relative merits of mills for grinding and expressing the juice from the Sorghum or Chinese Sugar Cane, and also of evaporators for reducing that juice to molasses or sugar, would report:

That there were on exhibition and examined by us, six differently constructed mills, of which three were horizontal, two perpendicular and one had rollers revolving around a cone. Of the first class there were those exhibited by Weber & Co., Clark & Co., and Mr. Newcomb. Of the second were those of Douglas Bros. and Gates & Co. The sixth mill was that of Hunt, Brawner & Co. They were all mills to be operated by one horse. Your committee submitted these mills to the same tests—the only ones which, under the circumstan-

ces, could conveniently be applied. We took a quantity of well ripened cane, grown in Southern Illinois, and out of the same pile weighed 150 lbs. to each mill. We required this to be ground, and measured the juice, noted the exact time of grinding, and, without having a dynamometer or counting the number of revolutions, observed with as much particularity as possible the speed of the horse and the amount of draft. The following were the results:

Douglas Bros' mill; time, 15½ minutes; quantity of juice, 7¾ gallons; speed, slow; draft heavy.

Gates & Co.'s mill; time, 8 minutes; quantity of juice, 8½ gallons and 1 pint; speed, fast; draft, heavy.

Hunt, Brawner & Co.'s mill; time, 7 minutes; quantity of juice, 8½ gallons and 1 pint; speed, moderately fast; draft, moderately heavy.

Newcomb's mill; time, 8 minutes; quantity of juice, 4¾ gallons; speed, moderately fast; draft, irregular and hard on the hand.

Weber & Co.'s mill; time, 8 minutes; quantity of juice, 8 gallons; speed, fast; draft, heavy.

Clark & Co.'s mill; time, 7 minutes; quantity of juice, 8½ gallons; speed, moderately fast; draft, moderately heavy.

It will thus be seen that so far as time and quantity of juice expressed are concerned, Hunt, Brawner & Co.'s mill stands first. Gates & Co.'s expressed exactly the same quantity of juice, but took a little longer time. Clark & Co.'s occupied the same time, but got out one pint less juice. Weber & Co.'s took a little more time than Clark & Co.'s, and got out less juice, by half a gallon, than the latter. Douglas Bros' occupied a good deal more time than any, and expressed less juice than all the others, excepting Mr. Newcomb's, which fell so far short of the others in that particular, that we could give it no further consideration. We will say that the horse used by Douglas Bros. was not as strong or active as those used by the others, which may in part account for so much greater length of time occupied by their mill. They were all crowded beyond the capacity of ordinary working. The exhibitor of Newcomb's mill claimed, that owing to some defect in the particular one exhibited, it had not done what his mills could do.

There is no material difference in the principle upon which the mills of Douglas Bros., Gates & Co., Weber & Co., and Clark & Co.'s mills operate. All have three rollers, revolving either in a horizontal or perpendicular position; the former have more gearing. Douglas Bros. claim for their's an improvement in the manner of feeding, by which the cane is put through an upright plate, perforated with holes; and their's is more regular. Gates & Co. have attached to their's a graduated hopper, for which they claim—and perhaps truly—the same result. Hunt, Brawner & Co.'s machine is entirely different from any of the others in construction, and we are inclined to think that thereby is secured for it some advantages over its competitors. It is keyed up by means of a single screw; an India rubber spring placed between two washers causes it to admit of yielding to any sudden resist-

ance, and thus lessening the liability of the castings breaking; and, because there is no shaft overhead, it is fed more conveniently. We therefore recommend that a first premium be given to Hunt, Brawner & Co.'s mill; and, taking all things into consideration—simplicity of construction, strength and capacity—we believe that Gates & Co.'s mill is somewhat superior to the balance of the mills, and recommend that a second premium be awarded to it.

There were four evaporators upon the ground, and a model of the fifth. Two were exhibited by Gates & Co., one by Cook & Co., and one by L. P. Harris. The model was exhibited by Mr. Bulkley. When we examined these, Gates & Co.'s were the only ones who had a sufficient quantity of pure juice to give us a complete practical exemplification of the working of their evaporators. Cook & Co. had some juice which had been used before and mixed with water, out of which they could not make molasses. The other exhibitor had none, but indicated to us the principles of his evaporator by means of water.

Gates & Co.'s evaporators, though arranged on different principles—the one being a long pan placed over a furnace, the other having, in addition, hot air flues passing through the pan, and thus requiring a much less quantity of fuel—seem both to require that a separate vessel should be used for what is called the "defecating process," that is, for bringing the juice to a boil and skimming off the scum which then rises to the top. Gates & Co.'s evaporators are placed over brick furnaces, and are thus fixed and permanent. In these two particulars Cook & Co.'s has the advantage. The whole process is commenced and completed in their one evaporator. The newly expressed juice is allowed to flow in at one end in a constant stream, and the molasses is carried off at the other, and no intermediate handling is required. The scum separates from the juice and is easily removed, and will not follow the juice as it flows towards the place where it is finally drawn off. It is also portable, the furnace being of sheet iron, and is exceedingly simple in its entire construction. The evaporator of Mr. Harris made something upon the same principle, but without possessing any real advantages over that of Cook & Co.'s, that we could see, is more complicated in the arrangement of its evaporating pan and furnace. The model exhibited by Mr. Bulkley is of an evaporator, which may possess some advantages in the way of cheapness to the farmer—at least, that is claimed for it—but we could not decide upon its merits, not having it tested in any way.

We therefore recommend that a first

premium be awarded to the evaporator of Cook & Co.

The undersigned regret that, before they had completed their examination, Gen. Wilson was taken ill, and they have not had the benefit of his knowledge, judgment and experience in making up their award.

Respectfully submitted.

SHERIDAN P. READ,
W. G. COFFIN.

THE STEAM PLOW.

To the Hon. Committee of the Illinois State Agricultural Society.

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, a committee of machinists appointed to test, practically, the plowing engines which might compete for an award offered by society, and called upon subsequently to reply to certain inquiries, respectfully report that there was but one offered for trial which comes within the provisions of the resolution. This was invented and patented by Joseph W. Fawkes of Pennsylvania.

To form a complete conception of this steam plow, let the committee recall the appearance of a small sized tender of a locomotive engine, let about half the forward portion of the sides and tank be removed. We now have something which resembles the body of Fawkes machine. In the middle of the forward portion of the platform stands the upright boiler, which is about six and one half feet high and four feet in diameter. The fire box dashpit being of course below the level of the platform, and the fire door opening forward. The boiler contains two thousand and twenty-eight inch and a half tubes, which computed together with the fire box, gives three hundred and seventy-five feet of fire surface. Steam may be got up in fifteen minutes, although twice that time is usually necessary. The fuel may be either bituminous coal or wood. The cylinders are horizontal, nine inches in diameter and fifteen inch stroke, and are placed one on each side of the boiler. The pistons communicate motion, not to side wheels, but to a drum or roller six feet in diameter and six feet long, which, as the sides of the platform overhang its ends, is comparatively out of sight. The drum is placed about midway between the front and back of the machine, before it depends the fire box and over and behind it is the tank; so that when the boiler and tank are full they nearly counter-balance each other on the axles of the driving drum. This drum is composed of two iron heads or spiders and an intermediate one to these, thick narrow planks cut like staves, and fitting closely, are bolted and form the periphery.

The adhesion is therefore produced by a surface of wood six feet long, which

never becomes polished, and the bearing of which is always across the grain. There is no slipping. The machine is started and stopped instantly, and except when propelling itself a considerable distance on turnpike or paved roads, the wear and tear is slight. This substitution of the driving roller for the ordinary side wheels wonderfully increases traction and prevents sloughing in wet or yielding soil, while moderate irregularities of surface scarcely effect the onward march of the plow. Another great advantage is gained by the greasing of the drum; each connecting rod communicates motion to a pinion, which turns easily but without shake on the just mentioned. The pinion interlocks with a cog wheel, which by a pinion on its axis imparts motion to the cog wheel bolted to the drum. The whole being so proportioned that six strokes of the piston cause one revolution of the drum. No increase of power and of control over the movements of the machine are thus secured.

In front of the fire box is a short tapering bow of sheet iron, which serves as a seat for the fireman and a receptacle for fuel. The bow is supported by a body-bolt on a truck composed of two iron guide wheels three and one-half feet in diameter and fifteen inches broad. The truck moves freely, like the front wheels of a chaise, and is controlled by a steering wheel in charge of the engineer, so that the whole machine is turned as readily and as short as a farm wagon. The engine is of thirty horse power. The entire length of the machine is about fifteen feet. Its weight with water and fuel ten tons, and cost including donkey engine and pump, about four thousand dollars. By this pump water may be drawn from a well or creek, and the tank filled or water forced from the tank to the boiler. The tank holds twelve barrels, sufficient for three hours running. The plows, eight in number, are attached to one frame which is suspended by chains passing over grooved pulleys in two beams projecting from the rear of the engine. These chains communicate to a windlass in charge of the fireman in front, by which the gang of plows may be raised or lowered at pleasure, and the frame of plows is drawn by other chains which are attached to the underside of the frame of the engine.

In answer to the several questions proposed by your board touching the capacity and practicability of the engine for farm purposes, we find upon trial and examination as follows:

1. The weight, ten tons, as reported by Mr. Fawkes.

2. The fuel consumed in one hour was one hundred and seventy pounds, or two bushels and ten pounds of inferior

coal, with one eighth part of a cord of wood, evaporating about one hundred and fifty gallons of water, and plowing one acre in twelve minutes, which includes turning. The wood was most of linn and considerably decayed, and would have been rejected upon steamboats.

3. The amount of traction on different grades of land would be a matter difficult to determine with the facilities in the hands of the committee. We had the engine run up the various grades of the fair grounds, passing into a gully with the plows swinging in the rear, which struck in one bank as the main roller was raising the other, which overpowered the engine, but upon detaching the plows the machine moved out without the least difficulty. Upon measurement the grade was found to be one foot vertical to four on the horizontal line. Steam by the indicator was marked at only 62°, 100° being his ordinary pressure.

4th. The friction produced by the pressure against the shoulders of the axles instead of being fair on the journals, (which are of less size) may possibly make a slight waste of power in running across inclined planes. The wear and tear would be the same as with any other steam engine used for locomotion. The engine can safely be run across an inclined plane of 30 deg. because of its great breadth of base—six feet; the principal part of the boiler, the heavy fire-box and a great portion of the machinery being below the centre.

5th. We have previously stated that an acre could be plowed in two minutes, but an examination of the following computations will demonstrate its actual performance: A strip of land 246 yards long and twenty feet wide was plowed in four minutes, and the headland of fifty feet was crossed one in twenty-seven seconds the other in thirty—the plows being elevated and lowered to and from the ground in the time.

6th. No steam engine in existence should be intrusted to inexperienced persons. This one is as simple as any one we have ever examined—is strong and substantial. It is a locomotive high-pressure engine in construction, arranged for reversing at will, and was repeatedly advanced and reversed a few inches at a time, with perfect ease, and in a few seconds. The skill requisite to manage the machine should be acquired in a month by any intelligent American farmer, and your committee, in view of the certainty of the employment of steam for farm purposes, would strongly recommend that the farmers of Illinois should give especial attention, in the education of their sons, to the principles of mechanics and the practical management of steam engines.

7th. The fuel furnished by the society by your committee was of such inferior quality as to hardly enable us to demonstrate fully the steam-generating capability of the boiler. But, by referring to the amount of its fire surface, (375 square feet,) it will be seen by practical men that, with the advantage of an exhaust to create artificial draft, it is fully competent, with ordinary fuel, to generate continuously abundant steam for its work. In weight of coal and wood on board, and of passengers, it carried, throughout the entire experiments, as much as would represent the weight of an entire days' supply of fuel. It would carry water for a three hours' run.

8th. As a stationary engine, her power was tested at Royer Hall, where, after jacking up her rear end so that the main drum turned clear of the ground, by applying the power direct to the drum or roller, 120 revolutions of it were obtained per minute. By passing the belt of a fifty foot line of shafting over the drum, the engine propelled one eight horse thrasher, one corn and cob mill at work, at the rate of twenty-five bushels per hour, two small iron corn mills, grinding six bushels per hour, one wood-moulding machine, one resawing circular saw, of two feet diameter, and a smut machine of high speed—all simultaneously, and with only ten pounds of steam. From experience with circular saws, we estimate it as capable of running two of the largest size at one time. It is perfectly competent to go into the timber, haul logs where the ordinary log wagons would be employed, and in one hour be jacked up and furnished power to saw those of large size.

9th. The fire box, being within fourteen inches of the ground, the machine would run, without injury, through water twelve inches deep. It was run by us over ground where by hand pressure a lath was forced downward fifteen inches; and, on examination, we were of the impression that the actual compaction of the surface by the machine was not more than one inch. Horses crossing this slough sank to their fetlocks; but as with the engine the actual surface pressing upon the ground is at all times six square feet, the ability to sustain weight is much greater than with the wagon and team, where the weight rests on narrow bases. The four wagon wheels present a surface width of seven inches in all; but the engine, with its drum and guide wheels, a surface of 102 inches. The weight of the engine is ten tons; that of wagon load of grain one ton and a-half, or something more than one-sixth as much. But the engine, with a drum six feet in diameter and guide wheels three and a-half feet in diameter, gives a much greater proportional contact with the

ground, and its load is proportionably less liable to miring in sloughs.

10th. The difference of power between running the engine on plank or hard road and common prairie would be great, but that between running on ordinary ground and ground so soft that the drum would sink, we have no means of knowing. It is evident, however, from the explanation in the preceding answer, that ground in such condition that a drum six feet in diameter and six feet long would sink to that depth would be entirely unfit to plow, and could not be even crossed by horses.

Having thus in detail answered the interrogatories propounded to us by the Executive Committee, we desire to make some general remarks with reference to the practicability of employing steam for plowing and other farm purposes. The experiments with Fawkes' steam plowing engine have demonstrated to our satisfaction that it is practicable, and that in a few years a large portion of the labor now performed by animal power on the farm will be expedited by steam, especially in prairie countries, and on well improved farms, where but few stones or other obstructions exist. The engine here exhibited is intended only for large operations, being capable of breaking twenty-five to forty acres per day, but we see no reason why its size may not be reduced very considerably, (say to one-fourth) and still successfully compete with animal power. A skilled engineer sent to witness this trial by the largest machinest in Ohio, has reported favorably to his employer, and a contract has already been made by him with Mr. Fawkes to build a small engine for his farm of three hundred acres.

We estimate the cost of plowing by it from the following very liberal data:

Used Per Diem.	
One Ton of Coal.....	\$5 00
One Cord of Wood.....	3 00
Labor of three men, Engineer \$2, Fireman \$1, Assistant \$1.....	4 00
Oil &c.....	1 00
Ordinary Wear and Tear.....	2 00
Interest, 10 per cent. on \$1,000.....	1 12
Total.....	\$16 12

With the most liberal allowance for hauling water and coal, one mile, for stopages, and turnings, the Machine should plow 25 acres per day. At present contract prices of \$2 50 per acre for prairie breaking, this would cost \$62 50. While by the above estimate it is seen that Fawkes' plows for 62½ cents per acre.

Your Committee regret, that accidents to the other competitors before reaching the ground should have prevented a test of the comparative merits of the several plans already adopted, and about to be offered to the public. The interest manifested in the progress of this trial, not only by the visitors upon the show ground, but by the public at large, will

no doubt stimulate, other agricultural bodies to follow the example so nobly set by the Illinois State Agricultural Society, and thus ample opportunity will be afforded for fair competition.

Your Committee, in view of the result of their experiments, unanimously recommend that the first prize of three thousand dollars, be awarded to Joseph W. Fawkes, Christiana, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, for his Steam Plow.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed,

ISAAC A. HEDGES, Cincinnati.
P. W. GATES, Chicago.
H. B. LATTA, Cincinnati.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

After the foregoing report was closed the undersigned (in the absence of the other members of the Committee who had left for home) accompanied the executive committee to witness a further trial of Mr. Fawkes' Engine. It was attached to the plows and set at work in prairie sod, along side of the former plowing, and after proceeding eighteen yards some of the connexions between the plows and the engine gave way when it was discovered that the former were set for plowing stubble ground and were running 6½ inches deep, causing a resistance that was sufficient to part the connexions at a point where a wooden pin is used for the express purpose of yielding in case of emergency, that no damage might be suffered by the plows.

After this was adjusted and the plows raised to the usual depth per prairie sod the engine proceeded some rods and leaving the prairie, and while crossing the part stubble, and part tame grass sod, a dashing shower passed over, wetting the surface of the ground, (which was already moist from the heavy rain the night before.) This caused the main roller to slip, and Mr. Fawkes having removed the spuds provided for being projected through the drum to prevent slipping in such cases, Mr. Fawkes nailed some strips on the drum as substitutes, which served well until reaching the sod on an inclined surface where the strips, from their temporary adjustment soon came off, and lodging under the machine caused it to slide some few inches from the line. Mr. F. then raised the plows and remarked that he preferred not to attempt further trial without the projectile-referred to. It is well known to all acquainted with the use of the reaper and mower that on a slipping surface, the driving wheels will fail to perform their revolutions, even with their ribbed surfaces. In conclusion the above incidents do not materially lessen the value of the improvement in my estimation.

Respectfully submitted Saturday evening.

ISAAC A. HEDGES.

Proposed Experiments In Wheat.

Editor of the Farmer:—I am not a farmer, but take a great interest in the success of the wheat crop. I have heard many farmers say that the lightness of our soil is sometimes fatal to the wheat; the frost heaving the ground and making it porous and light, so that the roots freeze dry, and thus kill it. If this is so, deep plowing cannot be of any use to this plant. Indeed, the harder and more compact the soil the better it is for it. Is this the reason why wheat succeeds on compact clay soil?

I would suggest two experiments. The first is to clear the weeds from the ground and plow it as shallow as possible, and then drill in the wheat with Emmerts' drill. The second is, if the land is clean, to drill in the wheat with Emmerts' drill, without plowing.

I am not a farmer, as I have said; and perhaps in our weedy country clean grounds cannot be had for these experiments. I wish to see it tested whether the lightness of our soil has not a good deal to do with the winter killing of wheat, and whether the soil, not disturbed, would protect wheat from the danger of being winter killed.

Emmerts' drill is a comparatively new machine. The drills are opened by rolling cutters; the seed is dropped into them and properly covered. It has the merit of doing good work even when the ground is filled with weeds. It can also drill in seed into ground which has not been plowed.

A.

Planting Orchards.

Editor of the Farmer:—I must confess that in writing under this caption, that I feel myself some of the discouragements which beset most of our fruit growers.—Within the few last years, many young orchards have been seriously injured, and many old ones have been nearly destroyed by some cause—probably the unfavorable seasons.—We have learned some things in regard to the planting of orchards, which may be useful to us. Our orchards on the black soils of our level lands are dying off. In every case where they have to stand with their feet in water for six or nine months in a year, they are perishing. Lands which formerly were tolerably dry, with our rainy seasons, have become too wet for apple trees. If we have planted orchards on such lands, we cannot be too quick in putting out trees on higher lands.

Let me then suggest, that if high grounds are selected, where the soil is tolerably good, which is thoroughly drained, apple trees can be planted out with a fair prospect that the trees will flourish and bear fruit well. I would choose if I could a northern slope, and even if there is timber on the South and West, it will be all the better for the trees. I noticed in the last Farmer a statement that in precisely such a location on the North side of Buffalo Heart Grove, peach trees have not been killed within the last few years, and

that they regularly bear fruit, as they have the present season. This fact is full of interest to fruit growers.

Apple trees can be set out to advantage in the fall, if the land is suitable. They will then be ready to push out in the spring, and make a good growth the next season. But on no account set out your trees in the flat lands in the fall, where their feet will stand in the water the present season, unless you design to kill them.

There is a general feeling among our farmers at this time to purchase trees for planting out, from the nurserymen of our State. Such are our railroad facilities, that they need not be out of the ground three days, before they are deposited in any locality—a great advantage over trees brought from a long distance; besides they are more thrifty than Foreign trees and are accustomed to our soils and climate.

P. C. R.

"Cold Winter is Coming."

Mr. Editor:—We should not forget the last fall and winter. Every man who has a family—every house-keeper and even every bachelor ought not to forget it. While I am writing this, the aspects out of doors remind me of the rains and mud and destruction of the roads, that absolutely prevented the hauling of wood and produce to the town from the country, for some six or eight months! Was it not so? Who can say that the same state of things is not to be repeated the coming fall months and winter. Our seasons are changing. They have changed. Every old settler knows it,—and what is to come, they don't know?

Laborers, mechanics, house-keepers, farmers—be prepared for the coming winter.—Within three months the asking price for coal may be twenty cents a bushel, and wood eight dollars a cord. Farmers may be in want of the comforts to be found in our stores and can't have them because they cannot bring them to market.

I say then to the town people, lay in your supplies—and to the country people bring your produce to market soon as you can and when it bears fair prices. If you owe debts recollect that the time will come for paying sure as death! The merchant cannot wait forever. You had better sell your produce and pay your debts while you can; for if the coming winter should be like the last, you cannot in the rainy months get your produce to market. The little rain we have already had is making the roads almost impassable. I close as I began, with the caution: "cold winter is coming."

J. C. F.

The Potatoe Crop.

Our correspondent below is right in saying that the potatoe crop in the North, is well nigh a failure. The crop is better in the Central and Southern counties, than in the North. Indeed it is abundant in Southern Illinois, and of the best quality—an unusual state of things.

Mr. Editor:—You have said a good deal in your paper about the neglect of our farmers to raise a sufficient supply of potatoes to meet our home wants. In past years they could probably do better than they did, but the

failure, to a great extent, must be charged to the season. They had then good crops in the North; and they supplied us, and took from us a good deal of money. There has been a change about this year. We have good potatoes and the North have miserable ones. We must now harvest our potatoes and save all we can. It was my object in writing this little piece to caution our farmers not to let their potatoes remain too long in the ground. If they are ripe, dig them at once. Two years ago and I believe last year thousands of bushels were frozen in the ground, which if they had been dug in time would have brought a dollar a bushel in Springfield.—Very often we have a wet time in October and November, when it is not possible to dig them. See to it then. Take time by the forelock, you that have potatoes. Take them to town and sell them, as long as you can get a good price for them, and put the rest up where floods and frosts will not hurt them.

I love a potatoe, Mr. Editor. There is something very honest and rich in the countenance of a good sized potatoe, when he lies on a plate, well boiled, with his natural coat upon him, with some cracks in his skin, which opens to your excited sight the rich, white, mealy substance within. Sometimes I have thought that there might be some mistake in the account of Grandmother Eve tempting the first man with an apple—and that it might have been a well cooked Boston Blue Potatoe. But I don't pretend to be certain about it. The French, it is said, think so, and to carry out the idea they call the potatoe "Pomme Terre." But farmers, I close by saying to you: Learn wisdom from the past, and save your potatoes.

SOLANUM TUBEROSUM.

The Corn Crop.

Editor of the Farmer:—I was up at Fairport last week and regretted to see that nine-tenths of the corn crop had been killed by the frost. The wheat in that part of the State had made a tolerable crop, and the oats did very well; but the grass was light and now the whole crop of corn fodder with the corn is very nigh cut off. These are sad times for farmers. Every where in the north should the farmers make efforts to save all sorts of forage for their stock. They should go into the prairies before the frosts have dried up the grasses and before the fire gets in before them, and cut and save all the grass they can—for it will be wanted before spring.

The short stnck of forage is manifest on the southern shore of Lake Erie and even down to Buffalo. Prairie hay is now being shipped to Buffalo and other places on the lakes and the demand exceeds the supply. Thousands and thousands of tons of grass which will be worth gold in Chicago, now wasting on the lines of the central railroads. So long as it can be saved the mower should be kept at work and the horse rake follow the mower. With a day's sun it will be dry enough to stack.

There will be corn in central Illinois,

commencing near LaSalle, and in southern Illinois there will be a heavy crop. But our northern farmers will not be able to purchase your corn but sparingly. They have felt the loss of crops and poor prices as you have felt and are feeling here. They have been buying British beef and wheat and potatoes in the cloths which come from British looms, while they cannot sell their beef and wheat and potatoes for what they cost them. It is well, however, that there is corn in the State. We shall be able to spare some. With the balance we can feed ourselves and fatten our cattle and hogs. We have always supposed that central Illinois could do well when she had a good crop of corn. That would be the case now, but for that load of debt, which weighs us down to the earth. But we have still hope. Live on the produce of your farms. Have your clothes patched and make them wear a year longer. So soon as can fall back into that state of home industry and domestic economy, from which in an evil hour you departed. Keep a few sheep, as of old. Make all the butter you can. Raise all the chickens you can. Raise all the pigs you can. Make your garden do something for you. Live close, but comfortable—and thank God things are no worse. *

The next Wheat Crop.

Mr. Editor of the Farmer:—The time has again come and is passing for putting in the seed for another crop of wheat. Many will keep on trying to raise wheat, though they have failed to raise a satisfactory crop for the last three years. Some few have noticed the apparent causes of failure and will do all they can to avoid them. If they have sown foul seed, mixed with chaff and the seeds of weeds, they will endeavor to make their wheat clean. A magnifying glass will often show cheat where you do not expect to find it; and every seed of cheat, if the season is not unusually favorable to wheat, will be sure to germinate. A rank growth of wheat may keep it down, but a weak growth will surely give it a chance to grow and spread itself.

If your wheat has failed because the ground was not properly prepared, you will try to prepare it better. If there are weeds growing on the ground you are to plow, and these are not covered well, and, indeed, if they are, they will have a tendency to make the ground light, and in the winter and spring, wheat on such ground, will be likely to winter kill. The seed ought to be drilled in in such ground, and then the ground should be rolled. The great fault of our soil in winter, when not covered or saturated with water, is its lightness. Common drills will not work in such

weedy ground; but the new rolling-cutter drill comes to your relief in this case. It will work in the weediest ground and work well. It is made on Rock River, and is an implement that ought to be generally known; for it will drill in all the grains in lands where the common drill cannot work.

If you lost your wheat last year by the grounds being saturated or flooded with water, your duty is as plain as can be; you must drain your lands; you must plow your grounds in small lands; you must make deep furrows to carry off the water; you must do it! You must not put off this as men sometimes do repentance, until the evil day comes!

It is of very little use to sow wheat on wet land. This has been done a good deal in this section heretofore. There are ten chances that you will lose your crop to one that you will make a good one on such grounds. Get such lands into meadows as soon as possible. In the east red top succeeds well on such grounds; but there seems to be a prejudice against it among some of our farmers. It is not yet too late to sow timothy on wheat lands, if you will do it. W.

To the Editor of the Illinois Farmer:—Our State and other Fairs are pleasant gatherings, and doubtless very useful, altogether such a stimulant as Agriculture requires, and without which the interest would languish. But there are defects in their internal organization that diminish their usefulness and will ultimately impair their popularity, we mean the defective committee of arrangements for awarding Premiums. The committees appointed on the Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine departments if they neglect to attend, can be filled by competitors, men on the spot generally at little notice, as these are popular and evidently esteemed honorary, but when we come to the implements, the mechanics, the fine arts, household &c., there is a sad falling away of committee men, and an equally sad ability to supply their places, so much so that many important articles are frequently passed over without any notice at all. An invention that may have cost wearisome and anxious months is neglected altogether or slurred over by some flippant committee man appointed at the eleventh hour, who, to begin with, knows nothing of the matter in hand, has no sympathy or interest in it, cannot be expected to have, has his mind doubtless fixed upon his route home, and speedy escape from the grounds when his hour is passed. If then the stock department at our Fairs will take care of itself should not extra attention by the Executive Board be given to these neglected departments, especially that of mechanics and the miscellaneous supplement connected therewith, frequently requiring the best knowledge of the existing condition and prospective wants of agriculture. To get the original appointed committee men to serve would it not be as well to pay them—this seems a sordid view—but nevertheless it has great force, and would not be bad policy as appears to us for it is indulging a liberality

in the house of its friends that would more than compensate for any amounts paid out. We deem it the rankest ingratitude and neglect that one of our fellow citizens in the least of his efforts to ameliorate the condition of labor, should find himself at the mercy of a chance committee or no committee at all to record or investigate what he has done. The less noted exhibitions are those that require certainly a corresponding share of the Society's solicitude, and if they do not get it will in the end fall from beneath its best support. We think the Miscellaneous Department of each Class might be simplified, might be brought under one committee, instead of half a dozen to confuse and bewilder the whole examination, and let it be a strong and good one, invested with considerable discretionary power to settle then and there whatever may come before them. The quantity of matter accumulating at our Fairs in the Mechanical and Implement Department, is completely overwhelming, and we looked upon Dr. Kyle the Superintendent under this head at both the State and National Fairs, as the most of a Martyr we had met with for a long time, and all in consequence of the weak manner by which he was sustained by the committees.

B.

From the Chicago Press and Tribune:

THE FAIRBANKS STANDARD SCALES.

Both in the State Fair at Freeport, and at the National Fair in this city, the Fairbank Standard Scales maintained their prestige won in over a quarter of a century of experience, and bore away all the prizes where they were competitors. Messrs. Fairbanks & Greenleaf, from their establishment in Burch's building, on the corner of Lake street and Wabash avenue, gave to their department at these Fairs an attraction which drew crowds of visitors, curious to look through the multiform list of weighing appliances, from railroad track scales to the letter balances, all the product of the celebrated St. Johnsbury Works and their branch New York manufactory. In all cases they won the blue ribbon and medals to match, and after tests, applied much more rigidly and intelligently than has become too common in these exhibitions.

There is one point in this which all manufacturers, of every grade, will do well to profit by. It is the wisdom of the Messrs. Fairbanks in "keeping up their standard." There has been with them no such thing as falling back on a reputation already made. Every scale must bear the identical accuracy of its predecessor, and not palm off seeming merits on the strength of credit previously gained. Manufacturers are too prone to lower their mark when success has given them the temptation to indolence and inattention. For this reason blue ribbons and first premiums follow a success of twenty-five years, mean something more than an empty formality, to-wit: that the skill which won still guards a splendid reputation.

In a late letter to the London Times, Mr. James A. Lockwood says that the raising of the sunken fleet at Sebastopol was proceeding successfully; about fourteen ships only remained to be raised. That portion of the fleet sunk at the entrance of the harbor will be blown up.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, OCTOBER 1, 1859.

The State Fair.

The State Fair was held at Freeport on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of September, ult. It was a successful fair—it was emphatically a FARMER'S and MECHANIC'S Fair. Other industrial interests were well represented, but those named were largely in the ascendant. The list of premiums awarded has been already given in most of the papers. In pamphlet form, it will be sent to every individual to whom a premium was awarded.

We have said that the fair was a success. There were at Freeport the finest herds of cattle to be found any where in the United States. Central Illinois carried off a large portion of the premiums. The herds of J. N. Brown and J. D. Smith of Sangamon county; of S. Dunlap and J. P. Henderson, of Morgan county; J. H. Speer and J. C. Bone, of Menard county, and J. M. Hill, of Cass county, (counties around us) were conspicuous. There were other fine cattle present. In the Horse Department there were many entries and some fine horses. The Sheep Department was well-filled. A larger number of Hogs were present than at any former exhibition. Of Poultry, there were many varieties, but we saw nothing in this class that was extraordinary. In the Department of Farm Products there were many noble specimens of Vegetables, Corn and Wheat. The wheat was the finest we have seen. Many specimens of farm products, came from Egypt. In fact "Egypt" was nobly represented. The articles from thence in the various departments were conspicuous features of the Fair. The Butter and Cheese in this Department showed that there was no other necessity of going out of the State for these articles than arises from the neglect of our farmers to improve the advantages offered by our State to prosecute the business of the Dairy. The Horticultural Department was most nobly got up and sustained. We never noticed a more beautiful and extensive arbor than was arranged by the Superintendent of this Department. The very large hall was dressed with evergreens and flowers most

artistically. The Central Pyramid of Pot Plants, in flower, was most beautiful—the contribution of the President. Cut flowers were everywhere; and a finer collection of fruit than we supposed could be gathered in this State the present year. The Department of Mechanical Articles, which included machinery of every kind, and embracing Agricultural Implements, was more extensive than was ever witnessed at a previous fair. It was a wonderful collection, evincing in the most striking manner the enterprise and genius of our countrymen, applied for the benefit of the laboring masses. In the Hall for Textile Fabrics, there was a good show. The articles were arranged in the best manner, and there were many beautiful specimens of the handiwork of our fair countrywomen. There was a fair collection of Paintings and other articles in the Art Hall. The Plowing Match was an exciting one. Good plowing was done. In this contest the successful competitor may well be proud.

Fawkes' Steam Plow was on hand, as also the Steam Digger of Glover & Van Doren, from Chicago. The steam plow was a conspicuous object, and it moved about the grounds in the style and dignity of a mammoth—plowing at times, and at others, using its power to move machinery. On Saturday, fixed for a final trial, some of the machinery failed, and the trial was continued at Chicago.

In the evenings of the fair, interesting discussions were held in the Society's large tent, which were well attended. These were a feature of the fair.

The Camping Grounds were another distinguishing feature of the Freeport Fair. They lay between the Fair Grounds and the city. It is said that more than 2,000 people were encamped upon these grounds. The great tents from Winnebago and Carroll counties were there. There were numerous other fine convenient tents. The Winnebago tent is a long and high one, capable of accommodating four hundred persons. The Carroll county tent is circular, and when we visited it was well inhabited, in groups, by farmers and farmers' wives and children, from Carroll county. It presented an interesting and pleasant scene, which we shall not soon forget. Why should not every county Agricul-

tural Society have its great tent for such occasions?

When we recollect our late disastrous seasons, and the present dry and frosty summer and fall in the north, and the general pecuniary distress among our farmers, we may well rejoice in the success of the Great Northwestern State Fair.

We can only thus give a general notice of the fair from general observation, obtained, in some brief moments, when other duties did not press upon the attention of the writer. We were gratified with the success of the fair; with the acquaintances we made in the northwest section of the State; with the marked moral character of the great gathering of the people; and with the courteous, hospitable and generous treatment accorded not only to the masses gathered at Freeport, but to the officers of the State Agricultural Society, by the citizens of Freeport. The committee, representing its citizens, in their intercourse with the officers of the society, acted with a promptness and liberality that will ever command our respect.

The United States' Fair.

We made a few brief visits to the fair grounds of the United States' Fair. We saw there most of the stock that was at Freeport, and some considerable additions. The Mechanical Department, embracing agricultural implements, was very extensive. Indeed, all the Departments were well filled. The fair was a decided success. Vast numbers of people were present. The city population were there, and the cars from every section brought immense numbers of visitors. The crowd, indeed, was so great that it was difficult to examine the articles exhibition.

As at Freeport, the Durham stock of Central Illinois came in for a large portion of the premiums. And the same herds that were conspicuous at Freeport, held their position at the Chicago Fair. We do not marvel that the stock of J. N. Brown, Esq. is destined for the St. Louis Fair. This herd, ranking among the best of which our country can boast, will be among the conquerors there.

POTATOES are now worth 40 cents per bushel in this market. At that price this is a paying crop.

Let us Look at Home!

Yes, brother farmers, laborers and mechanics, let us look at home a little. How much of our present suffering, from our pecuniary concerns, arises from our neglect of household economy? We fear much of it.

In the last Farmer we gave our views on that subject. We see that the article has been copied into many of the newspapers of our State, showing that our views are held by many others. But the question is, what is to be done now?

If we are in debt, let us sell all we can for money, even at a sacrifice, and pay our debts. If we have produce, don't wait for better prices. They are not likely to come; and if they should come, still it would be better for you to sacrifice something, pay your merchant, so that he may pay others. The very clothes some of you wear, and the food that you have eaten long since, belonged to others, whose very homes are to be sacrificed because you do not pay them their dues. There is a moral principle about this thing, too, that is worth something to the conscientious. If you have the means to pay, and don't pay, what is your condition "in the eyes of Him with whom you have to do?"

That is not all we must do. We must economize. We can live at one half the expense it has usually cost us. Perhaps, at one quarter the expense. Study economy at home. Save all you can. And more than this—farmers would do well to consider whether they are more happier now than when their cloths were made in their families—than when they made and brought butter and cheese to market—and woolen socks and linseys and janes. A farm should be held to be an independent government, as far as it can be—and every article of common necessity should be manufactured at home, if possible. This used to be the creed of farmers—and did it not pay? Did you not get along better when you practised it? What is your condition under the system of *free trade* that you have been following for the last three years? Free trade has injured you at home, and has injured us a nation. While we are suffering the present pecuniary pressure—while our crops will not pay the cost of production—we are buying the pork and wheat and potatoes of English farmers, which make a part

of the cost of getting up their dry goods and other articles imported here. Let our families try the protective tariff at home—"taboo" the gimcracks of foreign manufactures—live on their own productions; witness the effects of this home policy, and then they can appreciate the value of the principle applied to our nation.

We are aware that it is not a very good policy for a preacher to scold the steady church-goers in order to reach those of his flock who stay away from church. The readers of the *Farmer*, we hope, are not affected by the pecuniary distress general in the country—that they have been cautious and prudent through the last three years. If so, we shall rejoice with them, but we are apprehensive that this has not been universally the case; and our remarks are made in all kindness, with the view of doing good.

Chinese Sugar Cane.

We have no doubt that the sugar cane will become a staple crop in Illinois; but it will be a work of time. This cane can be made to pay well—better than corn or wheat now does; but to do this we must have experience and knowledge of the proper manner, and proper machinery for working it up. We can easily, with simple apparatus satisfy ourselves of the rich qualities of its juice, and we can make a palatable article of syrup; but we must have with knowledge and experience, good mills and evaporators to insure success. The experiments of Mr. Lovering, last year, near Philadelphia, were altogether successful, making superior syrup and sugar, and in quantities to pay. In our own State, in many localities, there was not as much seed planted last spring as in the spring previous, growing out, as we suppose, of the fact, that imperious necessity required the farmer's attention to ordinary crops. In the northern part of the State, we regret to say, that much of the cane was injured by the frosts on the 4th and 5th. The cane, however, is a hardier plant than corn, and much of it is still maturing and will make syrup.

At the recent State Fair there were many mills and evaporators on exhibition. Cane was brought from near Pana, to give them a trial. This was done by a competent committee, and their re-

port, to be found in this paper, will show the reader the results of their investigations.

Mr. Hedges (of the firm of Hedges, Free & Co., Cincinnati,) informs us that he has sold the present season, and is selling a large number of evaporators. The cultivation of the sugar cane seems to be rapidly increasing in some sections of the West.

More "Humbuggery."

Last spring we exposed the humbuggery attempted to be practised on our farmers, and which was to some extent on those who did not take agricultural papers, in the vile swindle of selling the seed of the Hungarian Millet for "Honey Blade Grass." There are men, now, who, as we have said before, are opening their eyes in wonder at the discovery that their Honey Blade Grass turns out to be Hungarian Millet! Marvelous discovery to be sure!

The same party who got up the Hungarian Grass swindle (and which they so successfully practised on that class of farmers who affect to consider themselves too wise to read agricultural papers,) are again attempting to impose on the public. They have got up a medicine for trees—fruit and other trees. They call it "TYLER'S TREE PERMEATING POWDER." They say an application of this powder kills bugs and insects on fruit and other fruit trees, shrubbery and plants. An incision is to be made in the tree and the powder is to be put into it. The originator of this humbug proposes to send powder enough for thirty trees for one dollar. Professor Johnson has analyzed this powder. It is nothing but calomel. It may physic and kill the trees and shrubs, and the fruit if any is yielded, may, physic children; but the whole is an arrant humbug, by which no sensible man should be swindled.

SUGAR MILL.—A large sugar mill has been erected near Pana, by A. Folsom, Esq., formerly a West India sugar planter, at an expense, as we are told, of many thousand dollars. We hope he will have everything in order—cane, wood, mill and experienced workmen—to make the enterprise profitable—in which case he will do much for himself and his country.

Short Horn Durham Stock.

The palm of excellence for this variety of stock has been awarded to Central Illinois. There are specimens of good stock of this breed in other parts of the State, but here it can be found of all ages, and at prices which will enable farmers who desire specimens to purchase. A reference to the premiums awarded at the late State and National Fairs will show where this stock can be found.

SANGAMON COUNEY FAIR.—This Fair commenced on the 4th day of October and continue four days. The committees are making ample arrangements on the fair grounds, and the manifestations are that the fair will be the best ever held in Sangamon. The "victorious herds of Sangamon," victorious at Freeport, Chicago and St. Louis, will be there, and we trust that the stock which took the premiums of the different fairs at Freeport, Chicago and St. Louis; Morgan and Cass, will be on hand. There will be a great show of horses, and the other departments will be well-sustained.

We trust that our people will generally visit the fair, and furnish articles for exhibition, and that the young men of the country will be on hand with their wagons and carriages to carry the people of the city to and from the fair grounds at fair prices, which can be made to them a profitable business.

There were Devons, Herefords and Durhams at Freeport. Others may fancy Herefords in preference to Durhams, but we are not with them. They may be fine cattle for beef, but we did not discover why they should be thought to compete with Durhams. The Devons are unquestionably beautiful cattle, and the north is 'the proper place for them. We saw an Alderney at the Chicago Fair, and a more homely animal of the cattle tribe, it has not been our lot to witness. She was a more homely animal than any southern scrub we ever saw; but the Alderneys are good milkers—their milk is said to be two-thirds cream. They are capital pet cows.

TIMOTHY SEED.—Central Illinois can grow timothy to any extent. This grass is well known as excellent food for stock

and as yielding food in sufficient quantities to make it a very profitable crop. Many of our farmers, the present fall have realized handsome sums from their timothy seed. It yields about five or six bushels to the acre, and finds a ready market at St. Louis at \$2 a \$2 20 per bushel.

The National Fair---Award of Premiums---The Steam Plow Again.

CHICAGO, September 17.

From the official list we select the following awards to citizens of Sangamon and adjoining counties:

Best Durham herd—James N. Brown, Sangamon county, Ill.

Second do.—J. H. Spear, Petersburg, Menard county, Ill.

Best herd, not full blood—A. G. Carle, Urbana, Ill.

Best herd fat cattle—J. C. Bone, Sangamon county, Ill.

Diplomas of Honor were awarded to James N. Brown, of Belin, Illinois, for the best herd of cattle, imported or native.

To same for finest herd of all classes, imported by himself.

To J. D. Smith, of Berlin, Illinois, for the best American herd of all classes bred by himself.

To James N. Brown, for the finest American animal of any class bred by himself, awarded to the Durham cow "Tulip."

And to J. D. Smith, of Berlin, Illinois, for the second best American herd.

Best grade cow, three years and upward—"Gaudy," A. G. Carle, Urbana, Ill.

Second do.—"Fancy," same owner

Best fat bullock, five years and over.

—R. C. Calif, Monticello, Ill.

Best do., three years and under five—J. H. Spears, Petersburg, Ill.

Best fat cow, five years and over—J. P. Henderson, Jacksonville, Ill.

Best thorough bred stallion, four years old and upward—"Young Barnton," H. Jacoby & Co., Springfield, Ill.

Best heavy draft stallion, three years and under four—"Perfection," S. Fleming, Effingham, Ill.

Second do.—"Napoleon Bonaparte, L. Dillon, Armington, Ill.

Best one year and under two—"Messenger," W. Kirk, Dickson, Ill.

Second do.—"Ande Benton," Garah Dillon, Armington, Ill.

Best heavy draft mare, four years and upward—Garah Dillon, Armington, Armington, Ill.

Second do.—A. D. Griffin, Clintonville, Ill.

Best three years and under four—L. Dillon, Armington, Ill.

Second do.—H. Dash, Bloomington, Ill.

Best one year and under two—Austin Richards, Downer's Grove, Ill.

Second do.—L. Dillon, Armington, Ill.

The second premium for saddle horses was awarded to Gen. John Cook, Springfield.

From this exhibit it will appear that Central Illinois, and particularly Sangamon county, has no reason to complain of the awards. It is currently reported that Sangamon county alone has taken more premiums at this fair than any one State, exclusive of Illinois.

The handsomest "sell" of the week came off yesterday, when four or five thousand people were tricked out of a dollar each, under the supposition that they were to see a trot at the Garden City Course between Flora Temple and Princess for \$2,000. It is true that the horses were there—that they went around the course—that Flora as usual came out ahead, but there was no trial of speed or show of one, nor was there a purse of \$2,000 put up. These two nags travel around the country—trot for an ideal purse, and divide the admittance money.

The trot yesterday was as transparent a humbug as any side show at the fair, where a three-legged calf or a woolly horse are the attractions, and the owners of these horses should be ashamed of being parties to such an imposition upon the public.

The report that they would contest for a citizens' purse of \$1,000 on the fair grounds this afternoon was not of course fulfilled. There was, however, a splendid show of horses, and some excellent trotting.

After repeated trials of Fawkes' Steam Plow before the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, they were unable to agree upon the award, and a compromise was finally effected, by which Mr. Fawkes is to be paid \$500 in addition to the \$1,000 already paid him. There was an irreconcilable division in the minds of the members of the committee upon the merits of this implement—one party contending that the inventor should be rewarded for his skill and genius by the allowance of the entire amount offered as a premium, and the other asserting that the plow is radically deficient and impracticable for the purposes designed, and for which

the premium of \$3,000 was offered. They therefore wisely compromised the matter by giving him \$1,500, which, it is to be hoped, will prove a sufficient sum to encourage the inventor in the prosecution of his labors, until he shall be able to present a machine that will fulfill the wants of our farmers. So mote it be.

Cotswold Sheep.

Col. J. W. Ware, of Virginia, writing on the question, "Are Sheep or Hogs the most profitable Animal to Fatten?" to the *Genesee Farmer*, says:

"Of all sheep, I prefer the Cotswold, from experience. They mature early, are large, hardy, and take on fat easy. During the summer and fall that they are one year old, (not fed on grain,) no mutton can be more delicately flavored, juicy and tender. Over two years old, many muttons are better, as they then tallow too heavily for the appetite; but the butcher will then give almost any price for them; and what prudent man wishes to keep muttons to four years old, when he can sell them at one year old at much better prices than any other sheep at four? I have rarely, if ever, sold my muttons of this breed, the fall after one year old, under \$10 each, and have sold older ones much higher; and never sold them at the same age under \$8 each, without having fed grain at all; and the fleece amply pays the keep. Can any breed of hogs show such clear profit and in so short a time? and they have no wool to pay the cost of keep?"

Osage Orange on Bottoms.

Editor of the Farmer:

I desire to ask a few questions of the cultivators of the Osage Orange on the bottoms of our rivers and creeks, where, perhaps once a year the ground is flooded for a short time? If there is among them one who has such experience, he would confer a great favor on others beside myself to give his experience in the *Illinois Farmer*:

Generally, the soil on the bottoms of our creeks and rivers is of a character, porous and rapidly becoming dry, when not covered with water. The soil contains a larger portion of mud than the upland, and is quick, warm and strong. No one can doubt but such soil will rapidly grow the Osage Orange. The question simply is, can the Osage orange be covered or partially with water in the floods of May without injury.

I have no idea that the Osage Orange can be grown advantageously on land where the roots always stand in the water. The proposition I present is, I repeat of an entirely different character from this. Bottom lands are dry eleven months out of the twelve, always.

A. W.

WOOL.—Large quantities of wool are being brought to St. Joseph's, Mo.,

from New Mexico. It is of a very coarse grade, and cost something like 7 and 10 cents. per lb. New Mexico can be made a great country for sheep—when the Indian robbers are driven off.

Rarey Taming a Vicious Horse.

He entered the ring, neighing fearfully, snorting and rushing sometimes at and sometimes away from the professor. Now he pawed the ground with impatience, and then flung out a hind hoof with a force which suggested to standers by the expediency of keeping at a civil distance. His case was a perfect lesson and was listened to with intense interest. Mr. Rarey at first approached his intractable pupil slowly, gently, but without fear, lecturing as he went along, and explaining the course of "gentleness," by means of which his proud spirit was soon to be brought to a state of submission. His left hand was on the strap, which peeped unobtrusively from his coat pocket, and his right—extended in the most conciliatory manner, in readiness for the preliminary caress. Cruiser the second looked puzzled, then frightened, reared as if he meditated a sudden visit to the reserved seats, and then stood perfectly motionless. The master's eye was upon him, and his own quailed under the mesmeric influence.

In a few seconds Mr. Rarey was at his shoulder, the strap was on his fore leg, and the lesson commenced. The struggle that followed was probably as exciting and extraordinary an exhibition as was ever witnessed in a public theatre. There was no sham, no stage trick, no spell, no philter; it was a regular stand up fight between the horse and the man, between strength directed by courage, and mere brute force having only its sheer bone and muscle to depend on. Sometimes the maddened animal reared, and seemed as if about to crush the professor; sometimes he sank prone upon his crippled fore leg, with head stretched out, blew up columns of sawdust by the violent respiration from the nostrils. Then he would make another desperate effort to rise, but only to be followed by another and more helpless prostration. He sweated, he panted, he quivered, his skin rose and fell in waves under the strong agony, and his haunches were marked with deep corrugations as he repeated his frantic attempts to break his, to him, mysterious bonds. But it was of no avail. The tamer all through clung so close to him as to seem a part of himself. He never got excited, never lost temper, never missed a single opportunity of describing to the audience what he was doing, and why he did it.

His gripe and pressure were as slow, regular, gradual, but as inexorable as fate, until, at last, the poor animal surrendered at discretion, stretched himself

at length upon the arena, and seemed to experience an exquisite sensation of relief as the reward of his entire and unconditional submission. The panting now gradually ceased, the muscles all became relaxed, and the limbs lay helpless in the professor's hands, as he knocked the hoofs together or placed them successively on his own head, to show how perfect was his confidence in the subjection of the horse. After a few minutes rest the straps were taken off and the pupil allowed to rise, when it was curious to observe that at first he kept his fore legs contracted, under the impression that the terrible ligatures still remained in their places. When he had completely recovered his equilibrium Mr. Rarey mounted upon his back, and rode him slowly out of the ring, amid loud and general applause.—*London News.*

Cooking Food for Swine.

A Kentucky farmer has been making experiments in feeding several lots of hogs, changing them from raw to cooked, and from ground to unground food. The results of these several trials are communicated to the *New York Tribune*, from which we give the general estimate.

One bushel of dry corn made five pounds and ten ounces of live pork. One bushel of boiled corn made fourteen pounds and seven ounces of pork. One bushel of ground corn, boiled, made in one instance sixteen pounds seven ounces, in another nearly eighteen pounds of pork. Estimating corn at ninety cents a bushel and pork at eight cents a lb., we have as the result of one bushel of dry corn, 45 cents worth of pork; of one bushel of boiled corn, \$1 15 worth of pork, and of one bushel of ground corn boiled, \$1 36 worth of pork.

Training Oxen.

The following sensible remarks upon this important, but neglected branch of farm operations, is furnished to the *New England Farmer*, by Charles A. Hubbard, of Concord, Mass. It is better to have a good team than a poor one, and a good team depends upon good management and careful usage:

A word on training oxen. I have found that by far the best time to train steers is when they are calves, say the first winter. Oxen that are trained when quite young, are much more pliable and obedient, and this adds much to their value. Steers that run until they are three or four years old, are dangerous animals to encounter. They are always running away with the cart or sled, whenever there is a chance for them, and often serious injury is the result. I would not recommend working steers hard, while young, as it prevents their growth; there is a difference between working them and merely training them. I have observed that very little attention is paid by our far-

mers to train their steers to back, but as they become able to draw a considerable load forward, they are often unmercifully beaten on the head and face, because they will not back a cart or sled with as large a load as they can draw forward, forgetting that much pains has been taken to teach them to draw forward, but none to teach them to push backward. To remedy the occasion of this thumping, as soon as I have taught my steers to be handy, as it is called, and to draw forward, I place them on a cart where the land is a little descending; in this situation they will soon learn to back it. Then I place them on level land and exercise them. Then I teach them to back a cart up land that is a little rising, the cart having no load in as yet. When I have taught them to stand up to the tongue as they ought, and back an empty cart, I next either put a small load in the cart, or take them to where the land rises faster, which answers the same purpose; thus in a few days they can be taught to back well, and to know how to do it, which, by a little use afterward, they never forget. This may appear of little consequence to some, but when it is remembered how frequently we want to back a load, when we are at work with our cattle, and how convenient it is to have our cattle back well, why should we not teach them for the time when we want them thus to lay out their strength? Besides, it often saves blows and vexation, which is considerable when one is in a hurry. I never considered a pair of oxen well broke until they would back with ease any reasonable load, and I would give a very considerable sum more for a yoke thus trained.

Summer Care of Colts.

The following practical hints on this subject we copy from the *Genesee Farmer*:

Mares with foals by their sides are always better kept in pasture, even if they are worked occasionally, and it is desirable, where they are to be worked, that they should be accustomed to leave their foals in the pasture while they are at work, allowing the foal to get to them only at noon, and after working hours. It is well to give the mare a feed of oats daily for a short time previous to weaning the foal. Let it be given to her in such a manner that the foal can be induced to partake of it, that the feed may be continued to him when weaned, as it is then essential to compensate him for the loss of the milk of his dam. If the colt is expected to turn out a superior animal, and the mare is not wanted to work, it will be conducive to that end that he should be allowed to run with the dam till he is a year old, before weaning, and then have a drink of new milk, fresh from the cow, given to him daily during the ensuing season. Two year olds are by no means to be so much cared for. Give them good pasture, plenty of room and water, and they are sure, if healthy, to grow, and become fat. If intended for sale at the end of the season, they may be pushed forward still more by a feed of oats given daily. Young colts kept at grass should be placed at pasture either among cattle or sheep, but not older horses, as they love to graze those precise spots not

well relished by other stock, and from their playfulness they are apt to get kicked or bitten.

Camels for Plantation Work.

It will be remembered that the United States Government has made two importations of camels, to be used as beasts of burden over our great western plains. This enterprise seems to have proved successful, and the animals every way adapted to the labors they were purchased to perform. These experiments on Government account have led to private enterprise in the same line. Mr. J. A. Machado, of Texas, having imported and safely landed ninety-two at Galveston, twelve of these have been shipped to New Orleans, with the view of their introduction to plantation labor, packing cotton bales, &c., in Louisiana.

Mr. Machado is ready to prove that for all purposes of labor and drought, one camel is equal to four mules; that he is more docile; that he requires less food, less care, lives to a much greater age than the mule, and besides is a breeding animal, which the mule is not. One of these animals weighs eighteen hundred pounds, and measures eight and a half feet in height. Any of the full grown ones are capable of bearing burdens of fifteen or sixteen hundred pounds, they kneel at the word of command and easily rise with this load on their backs. Saddles are constructed for them, upon which three or four persons can ride comfortably.

As pack animals across the mountains and plains, for the transportation of the mails and similar uses, we have no doubt the camel will be found admirably adapted, until the further progress of improvements more in accordance with the spirit of the age are completed, but for plantation use, on land of the character of that Louisiana, we hardly believe they will be made to supersede the means now employed.

How to Fatten Chickens.

We make the following extracts from an article in the *London Cottage Gardener*, and commend them to our readers:

It is hopeless to attempt to fatten them while they are at liberty. They must be put in a proper coop; and this, like most other poultry appurtenances, need not be expensive. To fatten twelve fowls, a coop may be three feet long, eighteen inches high, and eighteen inches deep, made entirely of bars; no part of it solid, neither top, sides nor bottom. Discretion must be used according to the size of the chickens put up. They do not want room; indeed, the closer they are the better; provided they can all stand up at the same time. Care must be taken to put up such as have been accustomed to be together, or they will fight. If one is quarrelsome, it is better to remove it at once; as, like other bad examples, it soon finds imitators. A diseased chicken should not be put up.

The food should be ground oats, and may either be put in a trough, or on a flat board running along the front of the coop. It may be mixed with water or milk; the latter is best. It should be well slaked, forming a

pulp as loose as can be, provided it does not run off the board. They must be well fed three or four times per day, the first time as soon after daybreak as may be possible or convenient, and then at intervals of four hours. Each meal should be as much and no more than they can eat up clean. When they have done feeding, the board should be wiped and some gravel may be spread. It causes them to feed and thrive.

After a fortnight of this treatment you will have good fat fowls. If, however, there are but four or six to be fattened, they must not have as much room as though there were twelve. Nothing is easier than to allot them the proper space; as it is only necessary to have two or three pieces of wood to pass between the bars and form a partition. This may also serve when fowls are up at different degrees of fatness. This requires attention, or fowls will not keep fat and healthy. As soon as the fowl is sufficiently fattened it must be killed; otherwise it will still get fat, but it will lose flesh. If fowls are intended for market, of course they are, or may be, all fattened at once; but if for home consumption, it is best to put them up at such intervals as will best suit the time when they will be required for table. When the time arrives for killing, whether they are meant for the market or otherwise, they should be fasted, without food or water for twelve or fifteen hours. This enables them to be kept for some time after being killed, even in hot weather.

CHAPTER ON THE SUGAR CANE.

As it will soon be time for the manufacturing of the sugar cane, and inasmuch as there are a great many questions asked, relative to the time, the process, the kind of materials, &c.; and as there is also a great many speculative theories on the subject, we will offer a few suggestions, principally from practical experience.

In the first place, after the crop is raised, it is necessary to make the proper arrangements with the right kind of machinery, buildings, wood, &c., so as to be ready to commence operation as soon as the cane will answer. What would you think of the farmer, who, when he ought to be plowing his land, sowing and planting his seed, if you would find him running about the country, hunting up an extra horse, harness, feed, seed, plows, and other implements? You would say at once, such a man is a poor calculator. You would find him out of patience, and when harvest came, out of a crop—consequently out of money, and probably out of credit. We might apply the above to the man who has, at this date, made no preparations for harvesting his sugar cane. To commence, we would say, have you got a good supply of seasoned wood on hand? Have you suitable buildings or sheds for machinery, and to store away your cane, &c. Have you barrels and other vessels, for holding your juice, molasses, vinegar, &c.? Have you engaged your mill for crushing, your boiling apparatus, and the necessary accompaniments? Do you know when is the best time to commence cutting your cane? Do you know how to grind, boil, clear it, &c.? Now, if you will bear

with us, we will treat briefly upon these different points.

First, after the crop is growing, have a good store of fine-split, seasoned wood. Have suitable buildings to keep your machinery and cane out of storms, while you are manufacturing. Secure a good mill, boiling apparatus, and all the necessary fixtures.—Some may say, it will not pay for all this paraphernalia for one crop, and may be that a small one. Such objections are in one sense true; but does the farmer expect to be paid, the first year, when he buys a threshing machine, mowing machine, wheat drill, &c.? We will say, the first year many will not; but, in the end, with proper care of such implements, he will be amply remunerated. As it is to those we think will want to make the proper preparations we are giving some instructions, we would say, ascertain about the amount of molasses you wish to make each day, before you purchase your machinery; for it should be distinctly understood, that, in order to make a good article, the grinding or crushing, and the evaporating or boiling, should all go on at the same time. Consequently, you want a mill and boiler, that will work one as fast as the other; for, if the juice stands without being boiled and skimmed, in warm weather, it will sour in less than ten hours. For instance, if you have machinery capable of evaporating only one barrel of molasses per day, it is not necessary to buy a mill to crush two barrels per day, and *vice versa*. The different manufactories of machinery have each their manner of displaying their articles to the public. You can obtain a good mill, with three iron rollers, of one horse power, suitable for grinding juice, for from 30 to 40 gallons of molasses per day, of ten or twelve hours, at from \$50 to \$60; and one that will make 40 to 60 gallons per day, from \$60, \$80 to \$100. Much is said, now-a-days, about the boiling apparatus. Some say the old fashioned iron kettle will do; others, a sheet-iron pan, in a furnace; others, a cast-iron pan; others, galvanized iron or copper, &c.; some say stationary; others, on rockers, &c. We have ascertained that those who have made the best article of molasses have used machinery that made it in the shortest space of time; or they have generally used long, shallow pans, of copper or galvanized iron, divided in sections, so that when the juice is running in at one end, the molasses is running out at the other.—These kinds of evaporators are usually sold from \$35 to \$75. Then, in order to be successful, you want cane knives, strainers, skimmers, dippers, syrup gauges, &c.

All things being ready, the next question is, the most suitable time of commencement, the proper mode of management, &c. Many have an idea that the cane must be worked up at a certain time, which is altogether a mistake. A man may have several acres, and need not be in a sweat about it, if he will commence in time, and take it coolly. The best article can be made about the time the seed matures. But, should you have a large amount to work up, commence as soon as the cane has about got its growth, not waiting for the seed to be ripe, as a good article of molasses can be made from the green cane. But there is a culminating point in the de-

velopment of the sugar in the cane. The season for sugar making is when most of the seeds are ripe, and some experimenters even say that it is the best for the cane, providing it is ripe, to be bitten by several frosts. One thing we are certain of, that frost does not prevent the ripe cane from making molasses, or from granulating. It is also ascertained that hard freezing does not injure ripe cane; but that it causes the saccharine matter to separate more freely from the impurities of the juice, providing it is worked up immediately after the thaw. Yet we would recommend, after the cane or seed is ripe, for it to be worked up as soon as convenient, as frequent freezing and thawing sours the juice in the cane. If you commence when the cane is green, have it cut and stripped from one to two days before working it up; then, and even in all cases, the juice should be taken immediately from the mill to the boiler. Should heavy frosts come before the seed ripens, cut off the cane close to the ground as soon as possible, and let it lay on the ground from twenty-four to thirty-six hours; then haul it in, and put it under shelter. If you have not shelter sufficient, put it in good sized shocks, well secured, and continue working at the green cane until all is worked up, leaving that which may be ripe to the last; that is, as said before, in case the frost bites the cane before it is ripe, you need not let the frost scare you, relative to your ripe cane. Some prefer topping and blading in the field, then cutting it up; others prefer cutting it off at the ground, and after it has cured a day or two, then strip, &c. For our part, we prefer the latter, particularly if we have boys to do the work, and the cane is tall. But in either case, after it is stripped, if you have not suitable buildings to put it in, put it in good sized piles, say a cord or more in a place, and cover it up well with straw, &c., to keep the cane from freezing and thawing. In grinding, have your cane handy to the mill, and we prefer placing the top in first. Have a coarse sack or strainer of some kind, between the mill and the vessel that receives the juice. Then have a settling tub or barrel, for the juice to run from into the boiler or evaporator, about one-third full or more of gravel, straw and charcoal; in that barrel put your clarifiers, (if you use any.) We have seen a good article of molasses and sugar made without any clarifier, and we have used lime, eggs, saleratus, milk, ley and cold syrup, but prefer the eggs and saleratus to any of the rest; unless the juice should be sour, we then prefer a little lime; but we find milk to be the poorest clarifier of any.

Now, to sum the whole matter up, have your wood; machinery, barrels, &c., ready, and in good order. Commence as soon as the cane will do. Drive the whole work steadily along. Take the juice right from the mill to the boiler. Keep a steady, brisk fire. Let none of the syrup scorch. Occasionally wash off all your machinery, and if properly attended to you can make it pay.

An excellent article of vinegar can be made, by boiling about two gallons of juice into one. In a former article, we stated that the seeds blades, and the bagasse, or cane, from the mill, and the scum mixed, with other swill, was profitable to feed to stock. We still say so, other opinions to the con-

trary notwithstanding; and we also say that we believe that an acre of the Sorghum cane will make as much, if not more pork, than an acre of corn, from the same kind of ground. Let the doubting Thomas measure off a piece of corn, and a piece of Sorghum, of the same size, with the same kind of hogs for each lot, and we feel free to prophecy in favor of the Sorghum.—A. H. Wrenn, Mt. Gilead, O.—Ohio Farmer.

CARLYLE, Ill., Sept. 22, 1859.

S. Francis, Esq.—By and in conformity of one of the articles of our agricultural and mechanical association, I (as Corresponding Secretary,) am required to report to you, yearly, of our acts and doings and other matters of interest to the producing classes. The officers for 1859, are:

President—G. W. Richardson.

Vice-Presidents—Posey Maddux, William Colier, G. W. Entrakin.

Corresponding Secretary—O. B. Nichols.

Recording Secretary—Z. Casl.

Treasurer—E. C. Dew.

We had the best exhibition last fall we have ever had at any fair. Everything directly or indirectly connected with agricultural or the mechanical arts are in a prosperous condition. Last fall was favorable for getting in wheat in time, although there was a great deal put in after the first of October, which I am satisfied is too late for this section of the country. All the red May wheat that was put in with the drill and got in in September, yielded a good crop and a number one article of grain. I think the crop more than an average one for this county, price at Carlyle 85 cents. Our spring was wet and cold, and the consequence was there was a large breadth of the corn crop put in after the middle of May—all put in previous to that is now out of the way of frost—and the present indications are that we shall have more corn this year than we have ever had since I have lived in the county, twenty-two years.

We had a very long drouth, commencing on the 3d of July and ending on the 21st. After the showers commenced they appeared to be rather partial, which had the effect to check the growth of our late corn and also to make our oat crop a little too light by the measure. I do not consider oats certain, unless got in very early, (hence the necessity of fall plowing.) Our oats were a fair average crop, price at Carlyle 28 cents. Corn 50 cents, but I am of the opinion (of the old lady by her butter,) that it will have to come down to the old price, say about 12 or 16 cents. Potatoes as a general thing are fine, both Irish and sweet, they command about the same price. I am satisfied that to insure a certain crop of Irish potatoes in this section of the country, it is necessary to plow in the

fall, and I am not certain but it would be a good plan to plant in the fall. I intend to try it. All other vegetables are abundant and a drug in the market.

We are nearly done seeding. The people are waking up to the importance of early sowing, and with the earliest variety of grain they can get, and drill it in at that. Our prospects are fine for a good fair, which commences on the 11th of October. The farmers appear awake to their real interest in the matter.

I regretted very much that circumstances were such that I could not be at the State Fair, but I have learned that the people of Marion and St. Clair were there, so that the Egyptians were not without representatives.

Yours truly,

O. B. NICHOLS, Cor. Sec'y.
S. FRANCIS, Cor. Sec. St. Ag. Soc'y.

Protection to Farms.

When I saw the prairie land for the first time, it struck me very forcibly, and I have often thought of it since, how much more comfortable the inhabitants might be if they would plant hedges or wide belts of trees to screen them from cold winter winds, and also be a protection to their crops, especially fruit. If each owner of one or two hundred acres of land would plant their boundaries or division lines with belts of trees, say from twenty to one hundred feet wide, they would find it to their advantage and comfort.

Besides the protection, the trees would in a few years, when large enough to thin out, be valuable for firewood or timber. An objector might say, "It would be very expensive to procure and plant such wide belts of trees." To such I would reply, that many kinds, one year old (which is large enough,) could be imported very cheap from the English and French nurseries by the 1,000, such as elms, ash, maples, beech, birch, linden, larch, alder, &c. Agents in New York city would order them on application.

The ground should be plowed a year previous to planting, and well worked through the summer, with or without a crop, as most convenient. The following spring put in plants from three to six feet apart; those which make largest growth, such as elms, &c., plant on the back line, and so on with the different sizes, so as to have the lowest growing kind inside or front; the last or inside row it would be well to plant with evergreens, say Norway spruce, because it is a faster grower than evergreens generally, and small plants can be obtained cheap.

Osage orange, locust, and chestnut, being fast growers, would be desirable to mix with the above named kinds.

Another plan would be to procure

seeds of any of the fast growing kinds of trees, grow them in the garden one year, and then transplant them in the belts or screens. But there would be failures and disappointments, and it might not prove as cheap and satisfactory as to import them.

But the quickest mode of obtaining a screen for protection would be to procure cuttings of some of the free and strong growing varieties of the willow, such as *Salix triandra*, *S. Bevdridgi*, *S. Purpurda*, etc., which grows from forty to sixty and seventy feet high, and very rapidly, too, in a deep, moist soil, and very suitable, no doubt, to much of the prairie land. This, however, would not be so valuable for general purposes, when grown, as elm, maple, etc.; but would make its growth in about half the time.

For profit and quick growth combined, there is nothing probably equal to the common yellow locust (*Robinia Pseudacacia*;) it will not only make a fine belt for protection in a short time, but for fencing posts and durable timber nothing equals it; and it has always commanded a high price; and I think a portion of the western prairies might be planted with it, as a profitable investment. It is said there are two kinds, one durable and the other not; but I know of only one kind. It is possible, if grown on deep, rich, mucky soils, the timber would be coarse grained, spongy, and not as durable.—*Chas. Downing.*

Seeding Timothy Meadows.

In sowing timothy seed in the spring with oats or other small grain, according to the usual practice in the West, a good "stand" is attended with much uncertainty. Our springs, just at the period when the young grass stands most in need of a moist earth, are frequently hot and dry and extremely apt to burn out the young timothy plants, before they can become sufficiently rooted to contend against the overpowering force of the grain crop. The two last springs, it is true, have been exceptions to this state of things; but, most generally, the crop of grass is entirely starved out and overshadowed by the grain, or so much injured that the ground is but half set with grass, leaving it liable to be choked up with weeds, at the expense of the little that has escaped the drying, burning influence of the previous weather.

We have frequently taken occasion to set forth the advantages of sowing timothy in the fall, unattended with any other crop. With a favorable fall, and the work of preparing the ground in a proper and thorough manner, there is much greater certainty of securing a stand; and when sown at this time, too, the grass will most generally so completely occupy the ground that it will more thoroughly exclude the weeds, and "white top" to which our fields are so liable. Seed sown in the fall will most generally yield at least two-thirds of a full crop of hay the succeeding summer; whereas, if sown in

the spring, nothing is made until the following spring, even under the most favorable circumstances. Timothy has a small seed, and the young plant is extremely frail and delicate, and requires the most thorough preparation of the soil, which can only be secured by repeated plowing, rolling and harrowing. If the ground receives a sufficient wetting, the seed should be sown early in September, in order that the young plants may become well-rooted before freezing weather sets in. The cool weather of the fall season is much better suited to the nature of this species of grass, than the scorching weather of spring and summer. The grass, when established, chiefly perfects its entire growth during the entire spring, and before the heat of summer overtakes it.

The hay crop in the West is a very important one, and the meridian of the Ohio Valley, where so much is grown for the markets of the Southern cities, lies almost upon the extreme Southern verge of the line capable of growing it, and hence the greater care is required in preparing the land, and in securing a suitable time for sowing the seed. In the South and West we labor under an additional disadvantage in seeding meadows. Timothy and clover are about the only crops that can be grown from which hay is made, but in the cooler and moister climate of the North, a variety of grasses, mixed, may be sown together, which greatly increases the chances of success.

In order to produce a good crop of timothy, land must also be rich as well as thoroughly prepared. If it is not rich, it should be made so by the liberal application of a dressing of manure. This alone will secure a good set of grass, whereas, if the seed is sown on a worn and exhausted soil, it might prove a failure.

Next to well prepared land, a good supply of new seed should be sown. It is poor economy to sow a scanty supply of seed. One bushel to six acres is as little as should ever be sown. In addition to this some prefer to add a pint of clover seed to each acre sown.

FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS.

'Not one word, dying, he could wish to blot.'
It stands thus in the original:—

'Not one immortal, one corrupted thought,
One line which, dying, he could wish to blot.'

LORD LITTLETON.—*Prologue to Thomson's Coriolanus.*

'To err is human, to forgive divine.'

POPE.—*Essay on Criticism.*

'The perfidious edge of battle.'

MILTON.—*Paradise Lost.*

'God made the country and man made the town.'

COWPER.—*The Task.*

'No pent up Utica contracts your powers,
But the whole boundless continent is yours.'

J. M. SEWALL.—*Epilogue to Cato.*

'And thereby hangs a tale.'

SHAKESPEARE.—*As You Like It.*

'And man the hermit, sighed, till woman smiled.'

CAMPBELL.—*Pleasures of Hope.*

'And snatch a grace beyond the reach of art.'

POPE.—*Essay on Criticism.*

'He whistled as he went for want of thought.'

DRYDEN.—*Cymon and Iphigenia.*

'The feast of reason and the flow of soul.'

POPE.—*Satires. To Mr. Fortescue.*

'Woman—last at the cross, and earliest at the grave.'

E. P. BARNETT.—*Woman: A Poem.*

'When Greek meets Greek then comes the tug of war.'

NAT LEE.—*Play of Alexander the Great.*

'Music has charms to soothe a savage breast.'
CONGREVE.—*The Mourning Bride*.

'Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long.'
GOLDSMITH.—*Edwin and Angelina*.

'Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined.'
POPE.—*Moral Essay*.

'Throw physic to the dogs.'
SHAKESPEARE.—*Macbeth*.

'Cans't thou not minister to a mind diseased?'
Ib.

'My way of life is fallen into the sere, the
yellow leaf.'
Ib.

'I'll make assurance double sure.'
Ib.

'Shouldered his crutch and showed how
fields were won.'
GOLDSMITH.—*Deserted Village*.

'Domestic happiness, the only bliss
Of Paradise that has survived the fall.'
COWPER.—*The Task*.

'For winter lingering chills the lap of May.'
GOLDSMITH.—*The Traveler*.

'Let who may make the laws of a people, al-
low me to write their ballads, and I'll guide
them at my will.'
SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.

'Rolled darkling down the torrent of his fate.'
DR. JOHNSON.—*Vanity of Human Wishes*.

'The man forget not, though i rugs he lies,
And know the mortal through a crown's dis-
guise.'
AKENSIDE.—*Epistle to Carlo*.

'Whatever is, is right.'
POPE.—*Essay on Man*.

'The proper study of mankind is man.'
Ib.

'Man never is, but always to be, blest.'
Ib.

'Pleased with a rattle, tickled with a straw.'
Ib.

'And to party gave up what was meant for
mankind.'
GOLDSMITH.—*Retaliation*.

'Superfluous lags the veteran on the stage.'
JOHNSON.—*Vanity of Human Wishes*.

'A little learning is a dangerous thing.'
POPE.—*Essay on Criticism*.

'And even his failing leaned to virtue's side.'
GOLDSMITH.—*The Deserted Village*.

'O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us
To see oursel as other see us.'
BURNS.

'Brevity is the soul of wit.'
SHAKESPEARE.—*Hamlet*.

'Westward the course of empire wends its
way.'
BISHOP BERKELEY.

'Hills peep o'er hills and Alps arise.'
POPE.—*Essay on Criticism*.

'The observed of all observers.'
SHAKESPEARE.—*Hamlet*.

'And made a sunshine in a shady place.'
SPENCER.—*Fairy Queen*.

'A breath can make them as a breath has
made.'
GOLDSMITH.—*The Deserted Village*.

'Heaven lies about us in infancy.'
WORDSWORTH.—*Ode on Immortality*.

'The old man eloquent.'
MILTON.—*Tenth Sonnet*.

'One touch of nature makes the world kin.'
SHAKESPEARE.—*Troilus and Cressida*.

'Great wits to madness surely are allied.'
DRYDEN.—*Absalom and Achitophel*.

'Even in our ashes live their wonted fires.'
GRAY.—*The Elegy*.

COMMERCIAL.

Springfield Market—Oct. 4.

WHEAT—60c@80c bu;
FLOUR—\$4@5 00 brl;
CORN—New, 25c bu;
CORN MEAL—80c to \$1 bu;
OATS—25c@30c bu;
BEANS—50c@51 bu;
BRAN—10c bu;
SHORTS—15c bu;
TIMOTHY s'd—\$1 60 to 1 75;
HUNGARIAN Gr s'd—none.
MILLET—None;
CLOVER—\$6 50@7 bu;
POTATOES—New, 30@40c;
HAY—\$6@8 ton;
TALLOW—9c lb;
SOAP—bar, 4 to 6c lb;
CANDLES—12 1/2c box;
PICKLED P'K—\$8@10 100;
BACON—hams 12 to 13c lb;
HICKENS—\$1 50@1 75;

BACON—sides 12 1/2c lb;
EGGS—6@8c doz;
LARD—12c lb;
SUGAR—8c@10 lb;
COFFEE—13c@16c lb;
MOLASSES—45c@60c gal;
SALT—\$1 75 sk;
SALT—\$1 90 lb;
MACKEREL—12c@13c No 1;
CODFISH—\$5 75 100 lbs;
APPLES—dried, \$2 50 bu;
WOOD—\$3@4 00 cord;
COAL—12c lb;
WHISKY—27@30c gal;
VINEGAR—10c gal;
BROOMS—\$1 50@2 50 doz;
BUTTER—15 1/2c lb;
HIDES—Dry, best, 14@16c;
HIDES—Green, 6c;
APPLES—green, 40@75c;

ST. LOUIS MARKET—OCT. 3, p. m.

Weather delightfully clear and pleasant, and favorable for business. While no great amount is doing we notice a fair degree of firmness in most articles at Saturday's prices. Flour, wheat and corn, hemp, whisky and most small articles, stand as reported Saturday. In oats, shippers tried to buy at lower prices, but failing to do so, they stood aloof from market.

CHICAGO MARKET—OCT. 4, p. m.

Winter wheat was more active and under a good demand. The market advanced 2 to 3c. About 88,000 bu of all grades changed hands at 88 to 91c for No 1 red; 78 1/2 to 82c for No 2 red; 7 1/2 to 79c for No 1 spring; 74 to 75c for No 2 spring; and 70c for rejected. About 2,700 bbls changed hands at \$3 80 to 4 25 for low grade to choice spring extras; \$3 25 for superfine do; and \$4 50 to 5 00 for winter extras. Corn was in good demand at previous prices; but the small quantity offering rendered the market quiet. About 6,000 bu were sold; at 75c for canal float, and 74c for No 1 in store. Oats active and steady. About 40,000 bu changed hands at 30c in store. Rye steady at 62 to 63c. The large receipts of barley as well as dull news from eastern market, caused a decline of 3 to 6c, with sales of about 11,000 bu, at 60 to 63c for No 1 in store; and 55c for No 2. Timothy seed firm, and in good demand, with sales at \$2 05 to 2 13. Highwines quiet and nominal at 26 1/2c. Alcohol, 56 to 57c.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK MARKET—OCT. 4.

Flour—Dull and heavy, 5@10c lower, sales 7,000 bbls at \$4 50@4 60 super state; \$4 65@4 70 extra state; \$4 50@4 65 super western; \$4 70@4 75 common to medium extra western; \$5 25@5 45 inferior to good shipping brands extra R H O. Canadian lower, sales 200 bbls at \$5 25@6 10. Rye flour steady, \$3 50@4 40. Wheat—Dull and heavy, sales 8,000 bu \$1 03 very choice Milwaukee club; \$1 31 handsome white western. Rye quiet 81@82. Barley unchanged, Corn firmer and quiet, 95c mixed western. Oats dull and unchanged. Pork—Lower, sales 100 bbls, \$15 50 mess; \$10 50 prime. Beef unchanged. Cut meats quiet. Lard buoyant. Whisky—Quiet.

New York Cattle Market—Sept. 28.

BEEF AGAIN LOWER AND VERY DULL.—Beef—The business to-day and yesterday has been exceedingly dull, and prices have declined half a cent per lb. The very large arrivals have produced general depression. Drovers were very anxious to realize, and offered to meet butchers at the reduction quoted, but found only a moderate response. In fact, the low rates of last week induced buyers to supply themselves ahead, expecting that higher rates would likely be established this week, and consequently their wants are now very moderate, and they do not feel disposed to make any hasty bargains. We quote the average of all sales at 7 1/2@8c, the top price 9 1/2c, and some interior selling at 4 1/2@6c. One or two extra well fed steers brought 10c. The number at Allerton's this week was 4001 from the following States:—New York, 1698; Ohio, 1084; Indiana, 334; Illinois, 822; Canada, 156; Michigan, 118; Kentucky, 258; Pennsylvania, 76; Virginia, 155. The conveyances were:—Erie railroad, 1592; Hudson River do, 1159; Harlem do, 170; boats, 665; on foot, 150.

QUOTATIONS.

The following are the prices at which stock was sold:

BEEF CATTLE.

Prem. quality, per cwt.....	none.
Prime do do	9 50@10 50
Ordinary do do	8 50@ 9 00
Common do do	6 50@ 8 00
Inferior do do	4 50@ 6 00

Milk Cows—More has been done, mainly to milkmen, and prices have not changed. Sales at \$25@60. We quote:
Best quality.....per head.....\$50 00@60 00
Good qualities.....do .. 40 00@45 00
Fair qualities.....do .. 30 00@35 00
Common qualities.....do .. 20 00@25 00

Veals—The trade has continued moderate, and for prime quality full rates are paid; poor stock is not wanted; sales at 4 1/2@7 1/2c. We quote:
Prime quality, per lb.....5 1/2@7 1/2
Ordinary, per lb.....4 1/2@5c

Sheep and Lambs—Have not declined; some sales of poor have been made from \$2 50 down to \$1 30 per head. Good to prime command \$3@5 50. Store sheep are wanted and scarce. New York state is largely represented in the receipts this week. Sales by Thos C Larkin of 1121 head for \$3,736 63; by R H Hume 2347 head for \$7,101; by McCarthy, 496 head for \$5 40 per head; by McGraw & O'Brien 2805 head for \$9,186 50. Included in McGraw's sales were 13 head for \$17 87, and 60 head for \$300. At Browning's the receipts were 4330 from New York, 249 New Jersey, 202 Ohio and 200 Michigan. At O'Brien's 2955 head were from New York, and 194 from Michigan. We quote:
Prime quality, per head, (extra).....\$4 50@5 50
Ordinary, per head.....3 50@4 00
Inferior, per head.....1 30@3 00

Swine—At Hudson River yards 2,433 head have been yarded, and at Western yards, 2,923. Prices have been heavy. We quote prime corn fed at 5 1/2@6 1/2c gross, and still fed at 6 1/2@6c.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

	Beef	Milk	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Veal	Sheep	Lambs	Swine
This day.....	4,417	145	850	14,318	5,356				
Last week.....	3,875	135	640	16,145	8,260				

Increase..... 312 10 310 1,827 2,904
Decrease

The following droves from Illinois were at this market:
A R Becket, 59; John T Alexander, 233; Haring & Co, 54; Gillet & Toffey, 62; J Showl, 34; R S Hamilton, 25; Van Brunt & Watrons, 64; Davis & Stewart, 52; M Conekle, 93; Thomas H Brown, 32; Alexander & Cassell, 51; Alexander & Fitch, 112.

Especial Notice to Farmers and OTHERS.

Osage Orange Plants.

THE SUBSCRIBER WILL FURNISH
Osage Orange, of good size for transplanting into Hedge Rows, in any quantity, at very low prices, either the present fall or next spring.

Apple Trees,
Pear Trees,
Cherry Trees,
Peach Trees,
Plum Trees,
Peach Trees,
Ornamental Trees,
of every kind

ALSO,

Fruit and Ornamental Shrubbery,
Embracing Gooseberries and Currants,
Roses,
Spiraeas,
Honey Suckles,
Grape Vines—Isabella, Catawba, Native.

BULBS AND TUBERS.

Dahlia,
Hyacinths,
Crocus,
Tulips,
Narcissus,
Lillies.

We repeat, that many of these articles, grown by myself, and trees grown in Illinois Nurseries, will be sold at the lowest possible figures.
S. FRANCIS.

oct6

For Sale.

40,000 Standard Apple Trees, 5 to 7 feet,
200,000 Osage Orange Plants, 1 and 2 years.
200,000 Apple Seedlings, 1 year, (un-sorted),
Peach Pear, Cherry, Grape, Pie Plant, &c.
Very Cheap at wholesale or retail, at the McLean county Nursery, Bloomington, Illinois.

COLMAN & DRAKE.

Ten good Salesmen Wanted.

oct6 2c

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

SHRUBBERY AND EVERGREEN TREES.
With a general assortment of Nursery articles for sale at the Pleasant Ridge Nursery, Arispe, Bureau, county, Ill., Very Aldrich, proprietor. I have a few thousand 6 year, 15,000 five year, 30,000 three year, 50,000 two year, and 100,000 one year old apple trees, at wholesale or retail. Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Strawberries, &c. Our stock of Evergreens is large, and very fine specimens; the N. Y. Pippin, Wegner, and Red Seekno further, are the most hardy in the list; of which I have a good supply, also of the Tompkins county King. Catalogues sent free. P. O. address, Tiskilwa Ill.

Wheat Drills.

BREAKING PLOWS, BROAD CAST
BOWERS. For sale by S. FRANCIS.
aug1

WESTERN TREES FOR THE WEST, AT THE

WOODBURN NURSERY!

PERSONS WISHING TO PURCHASE
their Fruit Trees, Shade Trees, or Shrubbery, will find it to their advantage to order at the above named Nursery.

We have for sale Thirty Thousand of 5 to 7 feet high, choice Apple Trees, of some fifty approved varieties, for Western culture; which we can with confidence offer to the public.

We also offer a good assortment of Peaches, Pears, (Dwarf and Standard,) Cherries, Plums, Quinces, Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Lawton Blackberry, Strawberries, Rhubarb, or Pie Plant, &c.

3,000 SILVER-LEAVED MAPLE.

Then which a handsome Shade Tree cannot be found.—They are eight to ten feet high, of thrifty growth, and to be had for ten dollars a hundred.

We will sell the above named Trees and Plants as reasonable as they can be had at any respectable Nursery—distinctly labeled, and carefully packed and delivered at the Nursery, or at the Railroad Depot.

We desire and shall aim to conduct our business, in all respects, satisfactorily to those who favor us with their patronage. We are permanently engaged in the business, and intend to make it to the interest of our friends to call on us.

JONATHAN HUGGINS.

Woodburn, Macoupin County, Illinois.

Aug1

Bloomington Nursery, BLOOMINGTON, - - - - - ILLINOIS.

Eighty Acres Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

200 NAMED SORTS TULIPS, ALSO

Hyacinths, Crocus, and a general assortment of Bulbs and Flower Roots for Fall and Spring planting. Nursery stock, Evergreens, Greenhouse and garden plants—all at wholesale and retail at lowest cash rates.

For particulars see Catalogues or address subscriber.

F. K. PHENIX.

Bloomington Ill., August 1, 1859.

Every child may be taught, or, rather, be directed and encouraged to teach itself, to see, hear, feel, and thus know the world around it, and to love it for the curious, the beautiful and the true which it contains. To this end, the school house and its surroundings should be arranged with special reference to neatness and taste. The esthetic element of our nature is capable of the highest development, affording the purest pleasure and the cheapest gratification. The perfection of art is but the imitation of nature's works, and he is the true artist who seeks beauty, harmony and grace at the original sources. The poetry of the soul should receive its earliest im-

pulses from the primary school.

"Every one should plant a tree," said one who knew, not only for the material gain produced by its growth, but, also, the moral effects of such a labor. Who has planted and nurtured a tree that has not himself improved by the association? It is a new object of love, and our sympathies in being grown with its growth and strengthened with its increasing vigor. When can we form such friendships with the world of beauty as when the faculties are expanding and our love seeking new objects for its earnest embrace? Where shall that expansion take place—that real education—better than at school? Let the teacher plant a tree and kind memories will cling to him in many young hearts through the influence of its association. Let the pupil plant a tree. It is an epoch in his life—a starting point of his usefulness, to which he will revert with pleasure long after he has ceased to enjoy its shade. Trees, flowers and shrubs should be an inseparable incident of school yard beauty. The contemplation of the impressible hours of childhood must be beneficial; for

"Some souls lose all things but the love of beauty,
And by that love they are redeemable."

Habits of close observation are essential to the agriculturist. Earth, air and sky present curious and wonderful phenomena to the accurate observer. The fall of an apple, the swinging of a chandelier, the sore hands of a milkmaid, gave celebrity to the names of Newton, Gallileo and Jenner, and contributed to the world's science invaluable truths. Little things, to observing and reflecting minds, often lead the way to grand discoveries.

To the naturalist, the familiar forms of vegetation, of animal life and of in-organized matter are known, and his quick eye detects new forms and features whenever they are met. He traces the relations of things and his conclusions are the results of mature deliberation and sober judgment. Such a man is always willing to be a learner, and does not hesitate to contribute his share of knowledge to the common stock. Such, to a great extent, should every agriculturist be. But how direct such observations at school?

Every school can have a magnifying glass and a microscope. Every boy and girl can learn to use them in discovering the myriad forms of beauty and fitness, found, where, to ignorant uncultivated minds, they would never be supposed to exist. A bee's sting, a snake's fang, a spider's web, an insect's eye, a sprig of moss, a human hair are a few of the ten thousand objects that fill us with wonder and admiration. If such means are afforded for acquiring knowledge, children will need no stimulus to avail them-

selves of it. The food, habits and modes of reproduction of the various insect pests may thus be brought under inspection, and experiments be made for their destruction or prevention. In this direction there is great opportunity for investigation. Who shall tell us the cause and cure of the potato rot? Many experiments have been made and are now making for this end. Some have arrived at conclusions, but the diversity of opinion yet, on these subjects, shows that the investigations and experiments must not be relinquished, as the object is not generally supposed to be attained. The chinch bug, the weevil, the fly, the tree borers, grasshoppers and locusts should be familiar acquaintances in the school room. The interest attaching to these forms of insect life, at times so destructive to the labors and hopes of the husbandman—would make them subjects of observation, and thus demonstrate the advantage of "agriculture as connected with schools."

Another means of inciting the powers of observation in children is the formation of a school cabinet of curious and interesting things, by the contributions of the pupils themselves. Such a collection might not be of very great value intrinsically, but its chief excellence would be in the inducement it would offer for increased zeal in the observation of things which otherwise might escape their notice. Collections of minerals, fossils and shells might be made. Bees, bugs, butterflies and other varieties of insects, with reptiles of different kinds, could easily be secured and arranged. A simple collection of flowers or the arrangement of leaves according to size, shape and formation, would add much to the benefit of the whole. A little vial of chloroform would be sufficient to capture and kill a multitude of insects and reptiles scientifically, which doubtless would be much more agreeable to them than if taken and preserved the old way.

Neatness and order constitute two of the prominent peculiarities of the model farm, and the farm itself, in these particulars, is but the embodiment of the model farmer's cultivated mind. The teacher can impart these qualities by the systematic arrangement of everything in his domain. He should "have a place for everything," and be very careful to "have everything in its place." Cleanliness and tidiness should be exhibited in every apartment and department in and about. In this way, also, can agriculture find a valuable auxiliary in its connection with the schools.

Habits of punctuality and regularity should distinguish the agriculturist in an especial manner. "Time and tide wait

for no man," and, failing to learn the value of this sentiment, many a man has lost his crop and his credit by his neglect to "make hay during sunshine." The duties of the farm, the garden and the orchard are chiefly of the kind that demand constant and regular attention. Plowing, sowing and reaping, planting, pruning and budding must be done, each in its season. To take advantage of the seasons in order to facilitate agricultural operations, requires some meteorological knowledge. To acquire this, time, systematic observation and reflection are necessary. As punctuality and regularity are essential in the proper management of a school, perhaps agriculture may derive something valuable from the connection in this respect.

If each school be furnished with a thermometer, barometer and a vane, to say nothing of a more extended assortment of instruments, the habit of punctual and regular observation and registration might be acquired which, aside from the knowledge obtained by forming a meteorological table, would be invaluable. Habits thus acquired would never be lost, for the tastes thus formed would be a constant stimulus for the acquisition of new food for mental digestion.

Habits of observation cultivate gentle and humane dispositions. We are told that a "merciful man is merciful to his beast," and in no class do we see a greater physical, to say nothing of the moral advantage of cultivating a loving disposition towards all living things than among those who till the ground. The agriculturist, especially, should cherish the humane sentiment, for no one has his patience more severely tried than he, and to no one does kindness and forbearance bring so rich a reward; for those who treat their hirelings and their cattle with consideration are more than repaid by the additional labor performed, and also in the improved character and appearance of the animal themselves. Domestic animals frequently reflect the character of their masters, and, other things being equal, he is the most successful farmer whose stock is gentle and kind, and is thus easily managed. These, it is true, are not the far-famed "humanities" of the schools; nevertheless the schools may contribute much to inculcate them.

No child will injure that in which he takes pleasure. Do the birds build in the trees in the school house yard? If they do not, they ought to, and a group of curious children should be instructed to observe their instincts, to notice their habits and to love their songs. Love begets confidence—even birds know this; and the sweet influence of such society is worth volumes on benevolence. By cultivating a taste for such compan-

ions the perceptive faculties are awakened, and much knowledge is gained. Many of the birds may be studied in this way—their seasons of migration, their haunts, their notes, their food, their nests, their seasons of incubation and the number and character of their young. The American propensity to destroy the feathered tribes for the mere love of killing, must be curbed, or agriculture must pay an exorbitant price for the sport. Nor is this destruction confined to those who furnish our tables. Anything having life is a suitable and desirable "mark" for the murderous aim. Already, in some sections, the cruel, useless and wholesale destruction of insectivorous birds is beginning to be severely felt by the agriculturist, and unless the evil is restrained by the cultivation of better feelings, the equilibrium established by the Creator will be disturbed, and the increase of pestiferous insects and noxious vegetation, indefinitely multiplied, may teach a severe but salutary lesson. Besides the birds there are many animals which, without reason or reflection, are unhesitatingly destroyed. Though occasionally laying a tribute upon the field or the stack yard, they are man's best friends, and should be treated with the consideration their merits demand.

But can children acquire this taste and affection for trees and flowers, beasts and birds at school? Surely they can. We have seen five hundred children and youth pass, several times a day, within reach of a number of bird's nests, built in the shrubbery of the school house yard. Though the subjects of every day's admiration, the birds built, brooded and went their way, "with no one to molest them or make them afraid." Would such have been the case unless each of the five hundred had been imbued with the sentiment of affection towards the confiding little songsters? Again, we have seen a half domesticated gray squirrel live, during a whole winter, in the same school building as above, and the frequent visits paid to the various recitation rooms was evidence of the mutual esteem and confidence established between him and those who generally might be reckoned his most unrelenting foes. Was not that school rendered better by such associations? and would not the formation of such habits of thought and action be invaluable to any one, and particularly the agriculturist?

If, then, the cultivation of the taste for the beautiful, the development of a love of nature's works and the formation of habits of close, accurate observation, of practical neatness and order, of punctuality and regularity, of gentleness and humanity are essential to the agriculturist, and can be acquired as we

have suggested, then we may claim that there may be a connection between agriculture and the schools.

But, can agricultural knowledge be acquired in the schools without the formalities of the text book and the recitation? Can we crowd on another branch of book knowledge to the already overburdened, teeming catalogues of our schools? We think not. If fine tastes and correct useful habits of thought and action can be acquired in the schools, with the knowledge incidentally obtained by the observations derived from such acquisition, the schools will have laid a permanent foundation for future studies, and this is all the most sanguine should expect. Our schools are not specifically agricultural, and, therefore, not calculated for the prosecution of agricultural science, further than we have designated.

One or two agricultural papers, introduced into a school, under the circumstances of training we have indicated, would do more towards improving the taste and stimulating the desire for practical knowledge than the most ingenious or elaborate text book. The papers would be read for the love of the subjects they treat of, and children thus taught to prize such current information would not likely be without such companionship when grown to manhood.

Cannot the academies and colleges do something more definite and direct than simply giving their students a love for natural beauty, and stimulating them to gratify the passion thus bestowed? If they do this they do much, and we fear they can do no more. Already the "curriculum" of many of our higher schools contains more subjects of study than can be accomplished properly by even the best of the intellectual racers in their training. Rivalry and false ideas of advancement have led many to suppose that in these latter days of lightning speed and railroad locomotion, there must be a corresponding rapidity in the acquisition of sciences and their applications. No wonder that such ideas should be the subject of satire:

"See Progress fly o'er Education's course!
Not far famed Derby owns a fleet horse;
On rare Improvement's "short and easy" road,
How swift her flight to Learning's blest abode!
In other times—'twas many years ago—
The scholar's course was toilsome, rough and slow—
The fair humanities were sought in tears,
And came, the trophy of laborious years.
Now, Learning's shrine each idle youth may seek,
And spending there a shilling and a week,
(At lightest cost of study, cash and lungs.)
Come back, like *Rumor*, with a hundred tongues!"

'Tis true, in the application of some of the principles of chemistry, something may be done, in the higher schools, to entertain and instruct students concerning the vegetative forces in nature, the constituents of growth, both animal and vegetable, the qualities of soils and perhaps their analysis, the rotation of crops and kindred topics. This may be done, to some extent, and, as far as it goes, may be for the advantage of

agricultural interests; but, where there is little or no love for nature and no taste for such pursuits, the abstract facts will be of little value. So, also, with botany. If it be studied to gratify a taste for flowers and to acquire a practical knowledge of the varieties and values of vegetable life, it will be of essential service; if, however, it be con-ned over as part of the collegiate course, to secure the diploma, but little save a smattering of the terms will be the result.

It must not be expected that good taste, quick perception, accurate observation, neatness, punctuality, regularity, gentleness and humanity are indigenous qualities, found in every school room. They are exotics, and it is not every school master that possesses that tact and skill, as a nursery man, to transplant and develop them in situations where they were never grown before. 'Tis trite as it is true, that

"Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined."

Who, then, shall bend the "twigs" that will indicate the connection of agriculture with the schools.

The teacher, for such a work, must not be a mere school keeper: he must possess these qualities if he would impart them, and, in addition, be intelligent, energetic, enthusiastic and persevering. In short, he must be a professional teacher—one who labors to make his work live in the minds and hearts of his pupils long after he has left the stage of action. Nor is it essential that he should possess a high degree of agricultural education, although the more varied his attainments the more useful he would be. Sympathizing with his pupils and directing their investigations, he would be a learner as well as a teacher. Versatility and tact would accomplish much without text books. A mere school keeper could do nothing with them.

The State Normal University can do much for agriculture, through the instrumentality of her graduating teachers. If they have their attention turned to this mode of governing and disciplining their schools; as we have no doubt they will, they will find it not only immeasurably to their own advantage, but also directly profitable to their schools and the communities in which they are engaged. The recent establishment of the society for advancing the study of natural history and the cabinet, commenced in this institution, are an earnest of the value of the subject in the minds of those who direct its operations, and lead us to hope that much will be done "agriculture, as connected with schools and colleges."

But the great want, for the dissemination of the principles of agricultural science in all its branches and in all its

details, is an Agricultural University. Comparatively few of the thousands engaged in the various departments of terra-culture could reap, directly, the advantage of such a school, but every one who did would go forth as an enthusiastic teacher, who would everywhere find apt and willing pupils, ready to seize on every new idea which would enhance the value of their land, the productiveness of their soil and the excellence of their stock. Other pens can treat of this subject better than ours.

May we soon witness its consummation!

Health and What Promotes It.

Dr. Frank Hamilton, in an address on hygiene, to the graduates of the Buffalo Medical College, discusses the subject of health and the causes which promote or injure it. We make a few extracts:

STOVES AND FURNACES.

Within a few years the air-tight stove has been substituted for the iron dogs, and for the first time since men have begun to live in houses we have no "fire-places." The shrine of the Lares has been removed, and our houses have been literally pillaged—robbed of the domestic hearth, toward which so many associations have been poured, and which in all ages have been regarded as the symbol of home with all its social comforts.

Not content with this, these enemies to our race have still more lately taken away the stoves, which, destitute of the essence, still occupied the places, and served to remind us at least of the ancient fireplaces; and instead they have built for us iron furnaces—Ætnas—under ground, so that now what of the oxygen we are not able to consume and convert into carbonic acid, is vitiated by impure gas escaping from its hidden chambers, by invisible particles of coal dust, and by other impurities which clog up the air cells, and close the avenues of life, or stick along the parched fauces as if reluctant to convey their poisons to the lungs.

Stoves have no doubt abridged the sum of human life, but by these subterranean iron furnaces we are cut short in the middle. It is an error to suppose that hot-air furnaces can ever be so constructed or managed, at least in private houses, as not in any degree to prove detrimental to health. We wish we could persuade ourselves that this is not so, for it is certainly very agreeable in a climate like ours to enjoy throughout all the rooms and passages of the house warm and uniform temperature; but it is just this even warmth which is one of the sources of mischief. The inmates are so little accustomed to the cold

within doors, and become so morbidly sensitive, that they shudder at the idea of going out, and if they ever do venture into the air, the frost enters into their open pores, and they hasten back to their shelter, chilled, exhausted and discouraged. They are no better able to endure the storms of winter than a plant reared in a hot-house. It was the venerable Bede, I think, who said: "When men lived in houses of willow, they were of oak, but when they lived in houses of oak they were of willow."

HORSEBACK EXERCISE.

My friend, a well known and very distinguished doctor of divinity, believes that I also ride a hobby, since I will prescribe no medicine for him but a horse; and I frankly confess that he has good reason for his belief. It is part of the speaker's creed that all religious congregations should build a barn, and buy a horse with a saddle and bridle; all which should be sufficiently endowed so as to cover expenses; and that as soon as the horse is properly installed, and not before they shall proceed to install a pastor. This doctrine in which we fully believe, has reference no less to the interest of the church than to the interest of the clergyman. It will secure one original sermon on every Sabbath morning; it will obviate the necessity of assistant chaplains, and save the expenses of a voyage to Europe once in five years. It commends itself especially, therefore, to the consideration of poor and feeble congregations.

The utility of horseback exercise is not limited however, to clergymen and their congregations. It is, in our humble opinion, the best exercise for both men and women, whether within or without the church; combining as it does, the largest amount of active and passive motion, with agreeable excitement. The trout may refuse to nibble, and the game to start, but upon the horse there is certain pleasure beyond all contingences. The rider is above everybody else, he goes faster than anybody else. He has for a time a kind of ideal and not actual being, and rides his horse as the poet rides his Pegasus. At one moment he imagines himself a general at the head of an army; at another, an emperor making a triumphal entry; now he is a knight, returning from conquest, and now, perhaps he rushes in battle; or he is riding a fierce race, and he springs in his saddle as if ten thousand bright dollars depended upon the result. Not that he actually believes all this, but only that he feels somewhat as if it were so or might be so.

When he presses his spur into the tender flank, and his horse plunges and prances, he also plunges and prances like his horse. He feels as if, in riding him, he was a part of the

noble animal himself, and that he is indeed what the Thessalians were reputed to be, half man and half horse—a real Centaur.

We cannot tell you what a horse will do with that precision and minuteness with which an empiric recounts the diseases which his hobby will infallibly cure, but we are certain that our hobby will reach a great variety of cases; and we believe that a horse—one horse a day—is good for almost everybody, if properly administered. Some will require to be cautioned against riding too violently, while for the benefit of others you must add the directions usually given in the old polypharmic prescriptions; "when taken to be well shaken."

BROADCLOTH AN ENEMY.

"American gentlemen have adopted as a national costume, broadcloth—a thin, tight-fitting black suit of broadcloth. To foreigners, we seem always to be in mourning; we travel in black, write in black, and we work in black. The priest, the lawyer, the doctor, the literary man, the mechanic, and even the city laborer, choose always the same unvarying, monotonous black broadcloth; a style and material which ought not to have been adopted out of the drawing-room or the pulpit; because it is a feeble and expensive fabric; because it is at the north no suitable protection against the cold, nor is it indeed any more suitable at the south. It is too thin to be warm in the winter, and too black to be cool in the summer; but especially do we object to it because the wearer is always afraid of soiling it by exposure. Young gentlemen will not play ball, or pitch quoits, or wrestle and tumble, or any other similar thing, lest their broadcloth should be offended. They will not go into the storm because the broadcloth will lose its lustre if rain falls upon it; they will not run because they have no confidence in the strength of the broadcloth; they dare not mount a horse, or leap a fence, because broadcloth, as everybody knows, is so faithless. So these young men, and these older merchants, mechanics, and all, learn to walk, talk and think soberly and carefully; they seldom venture even to laugh to the full extent of their sides."

WHAT IS NEEDED.

We need for our dwellings more ventilation and less heat, we need more out exercise, more sunlight, more manly, athletic and rude sports; we need more amusements, more holidays, more frolic, and noisy, boisterous mirth. Our infants need better nourishment than colorless mothers can ever furnish, purer milk than distilleries can manufacture; our children need more romping and less study. Our old men more

quiet and earlier relaxation from the labors of life. All men, both young and old, need less medicine and more good counsel. Our cities need cleansing, paving and draining. The Asiatic cholera, the yellow fever, the plague and many other fearful epidemics are called the opprobria of our art, and our fellow-citizens upbraid us with the feebleness and inefficiency of our resources in staying their fatal progress. When will they learn that although we do not fail to cure these maladies, the more precious secret of prevention is in our possession, and has been for these many years.

The County Fair.

Editor of the Farmer:—The fair of Sangamon county for 1859, was a great success. I have attended the fairs in Sangamon for the last twenty-three years and there never has been as fine a one as that just closed.

The Society adopted the unusual policy of admitting entries without requiring entry fees; for the purchase of an exhibitor's ticket can hardly be construed as a fee—for every exhibitor wants to be present during the fair. The entries were unusually large, except in the cattle department, and the failure there, if it may be called such, grew out of the fact that the fine stock of this and the neighboring counties had been jaded and worn down in some measure by attendance at previous fairs. There was present, however, fine cattle. The noble bull of J. N. Brown—which would take the first rank any where in the world was present—several other of his fine herd were also on hand; the herds of J. H. Speers, of Menard county; of J. C. Bone, of Sangamon county; of J. M. Hill, of Cass county,—and animals belonging to others, were on exhibition. There were many entries of horses, and taken together there were not many valuable animals. The hog and sheep departments were well filled. The ladies department was fine; and the farm product department was never before so well sustained. On the whole, there was a grand exhibition. The people were there. The receipts were more than \$2,000. The premiums paid over \$1,300 dollars.

Some faults may be noticed in this fair. The premiums, in my opinion, are not properly distributed. A percent should be taken from the stock and added to the departments in which articles from the ladies are entered. Their premiums, in some cases, are too little and too few. We cannot get along at our fairs without the countenance and support of the ladies.

The observer cannot fail to notice the amount of "miscellaneous" articles entered at our fairs. While speaking of

these, it must be presumed that the society offers as many premiums as they are able to pay, and that they *cannot* pay discretionary premiums. It would break it up. Hence I would make a suggestion. *Persons should examine the premium lists and bring articles to the fairs for which premiums are offered.* That is the way and the only way to get premiums. Let this be remembered for the coming year.

I think our premium list should be revised, so as to give encouragement alike to all interests. SANGAMON.

Orchards.

Editor of the Farmer:—There has always been a question, whether orchards planted out in the fall would do as well or better than planted out in the spring. Under favorable circumstances I think it the better policy to plant out the trees in the fall. The "favorable circumstances" are these:

The ground should be rolling and dry.

It should be well prepared, by being plowed at least twelve inches deep.

The trees should be taken from the nursery.

The trees should be two or three years old.

They should be planted out well, the roots spread out, and every fibre possible be preserved when planted.

A small mound should be thrown around to prevent the trees from being shaken and the roots made loose in winter.

To preserve them from rabbits, cornstalks can be tied about them—five will be enough—they should rise from the ground a foot or more.

Nothing should be put about the trees to harbor mice.

In the spring take the mound of earth and cornstalks away.

Encourage the trees to form low heads, that they may shade the bodies from exposure to the southwest sun.

I have seen trees so planted as to lean to the southwest, with apparent advantage.

The best grounds for orchards are our high oak or sandy barrens.

Plow deep furrows to carry off the water.

If there is timber on the south and west of grounds selected for orchard, it is well; if not plant trees for protection.

In all cases get trees from Illinois nurseries.

These rules, if followed, I think will secure good orchards. MILAM.

The Autumn.

Editor of the Farmer:—As a general fact, we have most beautiful autumns in this country. Our springs and winters are not usually pleasant; our summers

are hot—but our falls are beautiful. It is now the 13th of October while I am writing. The sky is beautifully clear; the weather is just what one would like for comfort; the roads are as fine as can be; and fall work can now be done most satisfactorily and rapidly. Indeed we have a glorious fall season.

Let us improve the leisure time we have now in clearing up about our dwellings; beautifying our yards; in planting out orchards; in plowing for spring crops; in seeing to our schools; in gathering our crops—and in other preparations for making ourselves comfortable through the winter months—to make them pleasant, which without care now, will be most dreary.

A COUNTRYMAN.

Fall Plowing

Editor of the Farmer:—I have seen articles in your paper recommending fall plowing. The weather and the condition of the land is now suitable for this work, and if the ground is moderately rolling, there is evidence sufficient to satisfy me that it will pay. The work should be done well.

Ground can be plowed in the fall to be sown in barley, spring wheat and oats early in the spring. We lose more of these crops from late sowing than any other cause.

Plow your land in the fall for these crops; plow well, and plow furrows to run off the water in winter. Do this now and you will much lighten your spring work and at the same time be more sure of making crops. Such is the experience I have seen recorded in many cases. W.

Winter Schooling.

Editor of the Farmer:—The season has come for taking up winter schools. Many of our boys and girls who have worked hard in summer, will attend school this winter.

I hope good teachers will be employed—men and women who love to teach and see that the children under their care improve. But these teachers should have the support and confidence of parents. They should not unnecessarily find fault with them. Make the children understand that the teachers are doing the best thing possible for them, and adopt measures to enable children and to induce them to give all their minds to study and require them to study branches of education which will be useful to them. Before they learn much else, let them learn to spell, to read and write, and get a knowledge of geography. These are, in my opinion, the foundations of all good and useful education. To put children on other studies before they have a knowledge of these, is wasting precious time. Grammar, also,

in my opinion, ought to be taught in lectures, and by familiar lectures children can be made to understand it in one-tenth of the time required to be spent in committing the long and dry details found in grammar books. I have known many young men who have attended school a great while, "almost know a good deal," from the diversity of their studies, without knowing much in reality.

Children should be taught the value of knowledge in books; they should realize that they contain the results of study and investigation of talented men, of celebrated minds, are to be found in those books, opened for their information. What an opportunity for their instruction? What fields of information in every branch of science is opened to them? The education which they can obtain in our schools is the key to unlock the gates of these ample fields.

Mr. Editor, if I could speak to the children now in our common schools, I would say to them from the stand point of near fifty years which I have attained—"Your time is precious; the hours that you are now in school are more valuable to you than words can describe; every moment that you give your mind to your books and your studies, will tell on your future lives; not only on your lives, but on those who will be associated with you. Give, therefore, your whole minds to your studies this winter. Let not the frivolities of youth intervene between you and your books; and hereafter you will rejoice that you have done so." J. S.

Seed Corn.

Editor of the Farmer:—I have been benefitted by the remarks in your paper heretofore on the necessity of saving seed corn in the fall. For two years I have had no trouble with my seed corn; and I think I improve and forward the crop by selecting ears that have ripened early in the season.

I would say to my brother farmers, if you have not saved your seed corn, do it now. And if you are not satisfied with the variety you cultivated, seek the liberty of selecting seed from your neighbor's field, where the corn suits you better.

I believe it will be found best for us to have early and late corn. We want early corn for feeding out early to hogs and to stock. There are many varieties of early corn in the country, and it will not be difficult to make a selection of a variety that matures early and yields well. A little time given to this matter now, will save much difficulty and vexation in the spring.

Farmers now must take such a course in farming as to secure crops all the time. This can be done, and must be

done if we are to get along prosperously.

Yours, A. B.

The American Chestnut.

In answer to an inquiry on the culture of the chestnut, we give the following from the *North Western Farmer*, communicated to that paper by Mr. James Weed, of Muscatine, Iowa:

"Convinced of the great utility of this tree for our north-western climate, we propose to offer a few suggestions relative to its culture and the inducements it presents to cultivators.

To begin with the seeds; these should be gathered fresh from the trees and immediately packed for transportation in such manner as not to heat or become dry. If to be two or three weeks in reaching their destination, we would pack in dry sand, or perhaps slightly damp swamp moss would answer equally as well and not so heavy; but if only two or three days, simply put up in small boxes or casks, containing from one-fourth to one-half bushel, not so close as to prevent a suitable ventilation, would probably answer as well as any mode. When received, they should be immediately mixed with six or eight times their bulk of sand, rather dry than moist, in boxes, and the boxes placed in a cool dry cellar, or they may be sunk to their tops in the earth, on a dry ridge, where they will not be likely to become too much saturated with standing water, and thus exposed to the action of winter frosts; but this is not so essential to the chestnut as to the seeds of stone fruits, such as the peach, plum, &c. If kept in the cellar, care should be taken to keep them sufficiently cool to prevent their sprouting too much before the ground is in suitable condition to plant. The planting should be done as early in the season as practicable, and if for nursery culture, the rows should not be less than four feet apart, and the nuts placed from eight to twelve inches apart in the row, and about one inch deep.

After planting, if the earth is drawn up with the hands into a high ridge, it will not smother the young plants, and will facilitate their coming up if the soil is stiff and inclined to bake. With us, when in good condition, chestnuts have grown readily and with as little difficulty as corn. They should be carefully hoed as soon as they appear above ground, and with the use of the plow, cultivator and hoe, the soil should be kept well stirred and free from weeds the first summer; and the first winter the trees should be kept well mulched with leaves or manure to prevent their being thrown out of the ground by frost. Their after treatment will consist in clean culture and judicious pruning to raise the head by degrees to its required height. Choice

varieties may be propagated by grafting as readily as the apple. Spanish chestnuts would perhaps be very desirable, but we have found them too tender for this climate.

Transplanting the chestnut successfully has generally been regarded as a difficult matter, and our early experience tended to corroborate this opinion. We have observed that after removal, the trees usually put out leaves readily, and continue to show prominent signs of living until the heat and drouth of summer supervenes, when they become withered and die. In the spring of 1857 we planted a row half a mile long, twenty feet apart, requiring one hundred and twenty-two trees. These were twice head in the early part of the season, and when the first drouth of summer commenced, they were thoroughly mulched with the refuse hay from a stack yard; and of the whole number of trees but eight died, thirty-eight sprouted from the root, and seventy-six succeeded perfectly. We have come to regard good culture and a thorough mulching after removal, as essential to success. The chestnut will probably grow well on moist western soils; it certainly does well on the clay soil of our oak lands, and will grow freely on such as are slightly sandy, and we see no good reason why they will not grow as well on our broad prairies, where trees of this character are very much needed.

Among our native ornamental trees the chestnut holds a high rank. The oak and elm are justly admired for their grandeur and gracefulness, but these are chiefly characteristics which belong to their maturity, while the chestnut far surpasses them while young in its fine form, clean smooth stem, broad, green and glossy foliage, and in its light yellow flowers, all combining to give it an air of lovely simplicity and sprightliness, scarcely equalled by any other of our deciduous trees. Nor are its opening burrs in autumn an unattractive feature.

As a timber tree, its reproductive quality constitutes its most remarkable characteristic. When a chestnut grove is cut off during winter, numerous young shoots spring up from the stumps, and these form trees suitable for fencing and framing timber in the shortest time in which trees can attain to those sizes; and will continue to produce a crop of timber as often as cut off.

For its fruit the chestnut is unquestionably at the head of all the nut-bearing species. The prices at which the nuts have hitherto been sold in this market, (\$8 to \$12 per bushel,) is sufficient evidence of the high estimation in which they are held as a luxury. We are informed that the price has advanced in the New England States, from

two to four dollars per bushel as an average since railroads have afforded facilities for sending them to those parts of the country where they are not produced; and it is not unlikely that similar causes will continue to increase the demand for many years to come.

The Hog—Its History, etc.

All the varieties of this animal originated in the Wild Boar; which is considered the root of the domestic hog. It is found in most of the temperate regions of Europe, Asia and Africa,

In England and Scotland, a few centuries since, the Wild Boar chase was a sport in great repute with the nobles. Shakespeare describes it with graphic accuracy. And if in those countries men are now better employed, the sport has now become obsolete. It is still practiced in India, and in those districts of Europe in which the animal still maintains his hold. He is now common in the extensive forests of France, Germany, Prussia and Hungary, as well as in Spain and some other countries.

The hog is the only domestic animal, seemingly of no use to man when alive, and was therefore, as may be presumed, designed for food. The Jews, however, the Egyptians and other inhabitants of warm countries, and all the Mahometans at present, reject the use of pork for food. The Greeks gave great commendation to the flesh of swine, and their Athletæ were fed with it. The Romans considered it one of their delicacies. No proper experiments have been made in regard to alkaline tendency; but as it is of a gelatinous and succulent nature, it is probably less so than many others. Upon the whole it appears to be a very valuable untriment.

The hog does not appear to have been indigenous to our country; but was taken hither by the early voyagers from the Old World; each bringing them from their own country; and in the Eastern States especially, it is said a few of the breeds still retain traces of the old English character. From its nature and habits, the hog was the most useful and profitable of all animals bred by the early settlers. It was their surest resource during the first years of toil and hardship. It arrived earlier to maturity, required less care, sought out, for the most part, its own food, was the least subject to accidents and diseases in a new situation, and therefore, best repaid any portion of attention bestowed on the breeding and rearing it.

Until within a few years, very little attention has been paid to the breeds of our farm stock; and hogs being considered an inferior species of domestic animals, have been the last to engage the attention of the farmer; and even at the present day in many districts of our country, the old unprofitable kinds of this animal continue to prevail. Indeed, systematic breeding with a view to improve the form and value of the animal, may be said to have hardly commenced among us, the improvements which are perceptible, being rather the fruits of European than American skill.

A common error in this country has been

to regard more the size of the animal, than its symmetry or good points—to estimate a breed according to the great weight which it could be made to attain—rather than the profit with which it would be fitted to the hands of the butcher—the most material point to the farmer. But experience is teaching us a new lesson on this head. Butchers now judge of an animal according to the good points, or most valuable meat, which it carries. Breeders have learned to prefer those which with a given quantity of food, will lay on the most meat. And the consumer has learned too, that meat that shows the most solid fat, is neither the most healthy, the most savory, nor the most economical. It is the due admixture of fat and lean, or the prevalence of what it termed *fat-lean*—such as is seen in the Devonshire ox and the South Down sheep—that gives the greatest value to the butcher's meat.

We are perfectly satisfied from long experience, that the best and most profitable swine for the farmer, is that breed which will nearly mature at eight to twelve months old, and then weigh, when well fattened and dressed from 250 to 300 pounds. A pig that has to be wintered and kept till sixteen or eighteen months old before fattened, rarely pays for itself at the ordinary price of pork; and the average weight of these, in the United States, even at a year and a half old, we do not believe exceeds 300 pounds.

In order to get pigs to weigh well, they must come early. February in the Southern, March in the Middle, and April in the Northern States, are the best months, to drop pigs. Feed them from start, all they will eat, and they will be ready to kill in November and December; and thus you will dispense with wintering any except those reserved for breeding.

Few animals yield less waste matter, after being dressed for market, than the pig; every part is useful, as a sailor would say; from stem to stern; the head for baking, the tail for roasting. Every part is made palatable and useful—feet, face and shanks are admired, when properly "soused" and cooked. The rich and the poor alike admire a meal from portions of the loin; the intestines make excellent envelopes for sausage meat; the bristles a brush for purposes "too numerous to mention." The pig is a short-lived but useful animal, and "works his own passage" through life by mixing muck and making manure for his owner. At death he invariably goes squealing out of his pen into "lard, and pork, and bacon," and is soon off on a voyage at sea in pursuit of a whale.

We never liked the long-legged, slab-sided, lop-eared, razor-backed grunners, except for the race-course, for the reason that they eat too much food to keep them in "good working order." For porkers, give us the short-legged, small-boned, small-headed, round bodied, quiet, contented, hearty pig, with sufficient good sense to know when he has eat enough and when to go and lay down to be rubbed or curried; and withal, a hog with a remarkably good disposition—in short a hog; such an one as is figured at the head of this article—a real *Suffolk*.

The Suffolk is a hearty, quiet and thrifty breed; they grow rapidly, are docile, contented and good looking. They are well

formed, compact, short-legged, hardly animals, equal in point of value to the best.

In our cities and villages an immense amount of pork is consumed in a fresh state, and for this purpose small hogs are much better adapted than large ones. They should be small boned, not over fat, but meaty, plump, fine grained pigs, weighing when dressed, from fifty to a hundred pounds. It is of great consequence, also, that they should be varieties which give good flavored, or well tasted meat. There is a vast difference in swine in this respect, though some persons will not acknowledge it. For the above purpose, the Suffolk is undoubtedly the hog. C. N. BEMENT.

Washington County Fair.

ASHLEY, ILLINOIS, OCT., 16, 1859.

It was my fortune to be here at the Fair of the Washington County Agricultural Society. The exhibition embraced the usual articles seen at the fairs. The fair and attendance were good. I shall not attempt to give particulars. Southern Illinois in a few years will not be behind any portion of the State, for agricultural improvements. The most important staple I saw—at least it struck me as being so, was the specimens of corn on exhibition, belonging to C. B. Mason, a farmer living in the vicinity of this place. He has christened it the "Douglas Corn." The specimens are colossal, the ears measuring from 12 to 15 inches in length; there are 12 rows of kernels on each ear, counting 50 large kernels to the row! Mr. Mason has five acres of the corn. The sample exhibited, was but a chance selection from his crop. Samples of this corn may be obtained from L. C. Tucker, of Ashley, who has a limited quantity for sale. This is June planted corn of the white variety.

J. H. B.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.—A letter from Crawford County, of the 10th ult., says:

"We had no frost here until the 6th, and 7th inst. Consequently the corn crops have matured well, and potatoes are good, where the potato-bug did not destroy them. We have had a fine fall for putting in small grain and there is a large quantity of wheat and rye sown, and it looks very fine. Winter feed for stock, is quite plenty, but the price of grain and live stock is so low, that there will be more than the usual quantity of stock wintered on the Wabash the coming winter. Money matters are tight and like to remain so, for last year we had nothing to sell and got in debt, and now we have a surplus, we can get nothing for it.

This county fair for this county goes off this week, after which we may report to you again." Yours, S. PARK.

AGRICULTURAL PERIODICALS FOR PREMIUMS.—This new practice of Agricultural Societies, seems to meet with general approbation. We hope the practice will be greatly extended the coming year. A small effort on the part of farmers, or their boys or girls, will secure them a capital fund of reading for the year. Fayette County has set a noble example.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, NOVEMBER 1, 1859.

Fall Business.

A good deal of wheat has been shipped off, and much yet remains. We see no prospect of materially improved prices. The crop is light in all Central Illinois.

A good many beef cattle are going forward, at low prices. The prospect is that cattle will not be high this winter.

Stocks of hogs are moving to Chicago. We would not learn the prices paid for them. 5½c nett is paid for hogs in Cincinnati; a tolerable good price. We do not believe that the crop of hogs is great, but while this is so, it is well known that much old pork is yet on hand.

The crop of corn in Central Illinois, is amply sufficient to fatten well, all fine hogs and cattle, designed for market.

Fall Work.

Seeding and much other farm work is over for the season. There is however, still much to do. Are our farmers prepared for winter? Have they done their fall plowing? Have they provided shelter and comfort for their cattle. Have they secured their vegetables from frost? Have they selected their seed corn? Are their fences in condition to prevent cattle from going into their orchards and gardens. Have they made arrangements for wood? Are their houses in proper order to secure the inmates from the inclemencies of winter? Are the children and other members of the family provided with shoes and clothing for cold weather. Have they good schools, and is the school house in a condition to be comfortable, with good supplies of wood? Have families newspapers and other reading, for the long evenings of winter? Are all selling their crops, and making every effort to pay debts, with a determination to make no new ones?

Here are important questions, and every farmer ought to be able to answer them.

Grapes.

A few years ago we had only two kinds of grapes that were deemed valuable for general cultivation, the Catawba and Isabella. Cultivators have been hybridizing and producing new varieties, until the list of American grapes is extended to some dozens, many of them of great excellence. At the late fair in Chicago, more than a dozen most superb varieties were exhibited. The Diana, Concord, Hartford Prolific, Clinton, Delaware, Union Village and several new seedlings from near Cincinnati. We tested the Delaware, and it could not possibly be impro-

ved. Some grape growers insist that it is an European grape; the Traminer; but if it is the plant has become so well acclimated as to produce fine crops with open culture on American soil. The plants cost a good deal, some \$2 or \$3; but the other grape plants we have named, can be bought at most of the nurseries at fair prices.

In a few years there will be scarcely found a garden or farm in this country, destitute of grape vines. They are easily cared for, and yield much valuable fruit. We know an individual in this city, who from some young vines, (and who loved money better than he loved his excellent Isabellas,) sold eight dollars worth of fruit—and at half the usual prices.

Dull Times.

Merchants complain that business is dull. How can it be otherwise, when farmers have little to buy with, and when they have been sufficiently scorched not to go upon trust, if they would. Had the same economy been practised for the last three years, the country would not be in the condition that it now is.

We counsel economy, as far as possible. Live on the products of your farm.

Have Farmers Fears that their Stock and Feed will be Short?

This should be thought of in time. There are ways for making a small amount of feed for stock go far. We repeat, this should be thought of in time. The commencement of saving should be at the commencement of feeding. Corn and grains fed to stock, will go one third further, if ground, than if not ground! Think of that. You can thus save or add to your means essentially for keeping your stock by grinding your grain. Again, you can make your fodder, your hay and straw, go much further by cutting than by feeding it without cutting. Have your cutting boxes in order? The old fashioned one can be made to work well, and will cost you but little.

Awarding Committees.

These are essential to the carrying on of fairs. It is all important that members understand their duties. These do not extend further in awarding premiums than the premiums offered; when they are about awarding premiums they should see what premiums they are authorised to give, and they should award no more, and thus save exhibitors and officers of societies, great vexation.

SORGHO SYRUP.—Mr. Goltra, at his Sugar Mill, near Lincoln, is turning off forty gallons of excellent syrup, per day. He intends to go into the business largely, next year.

Fall Plowing.

The ground was never in better order for plowing. Why are not the plows going for spring crops—spring wheat, flax, spring barley, oats and corn! Why not take time by the forelock? Why should we see the boys and men sunning themselves by the stable, barn, house, when such an opportunity for benefiting themselves is presented? Don't we know that nine times out of ten, we have much weather in spring unfavorable for plowing? Don't all know that plowing in the fall, kills many weeds, many insects, and secures the ground in better order for spring sowing and planting, than it can possibly be when water follows the plow in the furrow?

We repeat, perhaps for the twentieth time, that the best crops of spring wheat and oats have been made from ground plowed in the fall.

"Root Pits."

Many farmers have not cellars, in which to save roots—beets, potatoes, carrots, cabbage, &c. They are compelled to put them in pits, for winter use. When this is required, the open field is the best place for a Root Pit. They need ventilation. A warm spot is subject to too great and sudden changes, and in such places as the north side of a building or piece of woods, the cold penetrates deeper than there is any need of. Dig a trench two feet deep, and four feet wide, throwing the earth equally on each side. Then fill in the roots—beets, carrots, or potatoes or cabbages. Fill to the surface of the ground, then pile them up as steep as they will lie. The angle of the two sides at the ridge should be a right angle. Cover them with two or three inches of straw, and then throw the earth on, and spat it down hard with the shovel. Once in eight feet an opening should be made in the ridge, a handful or two of straw loosened up and pulled out; a stake stuck in and some long straw bound upon it so as to shed rain.

See to your Gardens.

Now is the time to set out rose, gooseberry and currant plants, as well as all flowering shrubbery which starts early in the spring. Lawton Blackberries and Raspberries should now be planted out; also strawberries, pie plants, flowering bulbs, Peonias and Lillies. You have more leisure to attend to these things now than you will have in the spring. On a very small space of ground you can raise all the small plants you need; you can raise pie plant sufficient for all your wants—and besides have flowering shrubbery and Herbaceous flowering plants, to make your gardens beautiful—to attend to which will require but little labor.

Western Agriculture.

We have been interested in reading the address of Hon. John A. Dix at the recent State Fair, in New York. This address is eminently practical. In one portion of it he alludes to the exhausting process of agriculture in the Eastern States, by which the soil becomes too poor to yield remuneratory crops. He says the same process of exhausting is going on on the prairies of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. We quote from the address:

"I was last spring in a city of one of these States, on the Mississippi, and found the inhabitants throwing their manure into the river. I inquired the cause of this extraordinary practice, and was told in reply, that their lands were naturally fertile enough without artificial aid. A few years will bring with them, as time has everywhere else, the penalties of wastefulness, in diminished crops and lighter grains. The annual loss in the United States, from the abuse of the soil, is to be computed not by millions of dollars, but by hundreds of millions. We know of statistical facts that the average production per acre has greatly diminished. In this State, less than a century ago, the average wheat crop was over twenty-five bushels per acre. It is now about twelve. In Ohio, one of the most fertile States in the Union, and but little more than half a century old, the average is about the same in New York. The virgin soil is already half worn out. In some of the Southern States the deterioration has been more rapid, and the average production is still less. These are the legitimate fruits of careless systems of husbandry. They are not merely careless—they are systems of the most wasteful and culpable extravagance. The man who extracts from his land all it is capable of producing, without giving back to it an equivalent in fertilizing substances, is in fact selling his farm in his crops. It is precisely the system of the prodigal, who spends his money capital, instead of living by a prudent economy on the interest. It was the same system of spoliation which exhausted the grain fields of Imperial Rome. Cato, more than two thousand years ago, and Columella, Varro and Virgil, at a later day, wrote learnedly, and some of them gracefully, on the subject of agriculture. They laid down the most unexceptionable rules in regard to rotation of crops, the cultivation of plants, the treatment of the soil, and all the leading subjects of practical husbandry. But the agriculture of Rome died out under their precepts, and the desolation of the campagna, once the prolific mother of nations, and now to a

great extent overrun with noxious vegetation, and made uninhabitable by pestilential exhalations, attests the insufficiency of their systems. The Maremma, in ancient Etruria, was exhausted by the same process of spoliation; it became nearly uninhabitable, and, like the Campagna, exhaled an atmosphere of pestilence and death. But by the persevering efforts of Leopold the First, of Tuscany, against great physical impediments, a large portion of it has been reclaimed and made healthful and productive. The ancients labored under disadvantages, which time had removed.—They had no knowledge of the natural sciences, which are the offspring almost of our generation. Analytical chemistry has taught us the component parts of the soil, and of the plants and grains which it produces. We know precisely the amount of each organic and inorganic element, which is lost to the earth in bringing a certain quantity of grain to perfection. We know that unless these elements are restored, the earth is robbed of so much of its vegetative power, and gradually becomes worn out and unproductive.

I have dwelt upon this subject, gentlemen, because it is the great danger which threatens our agriculture, and which we must guard against by timely reform, if we would fulfill our destined work of supplying the increasing wants of the Eastern hemisphere. I desire to give it prominence, because I believe there has been no instance in the history of our race in which the fertility of the earth has been so rapidly wasted. It would have been otherwise, no doubt, if we had not been able to resort to boundless tracts of fertile land in the West, which were open to emigrants at prices almost nominal. It was thought easier to wear out old lands and remove to new, than it was to keep up the fertility of the old by manuring. It was a fatal error, as the condition of our agriculture will show. But for the extraordinary productiveness of the Western States and Territories, the old States would, at this very moment, have been dependent on other countries for this supplies of food. The remedy for all this evil is in our hands. It is to restore to our lands, by manuring, what we take from them in crops. We all know that this process of restoration has been going on for nearly a quarter of a century in Virginia, and that lands which had been worn out by successive crops of tobacco, corn and wheat, have been reclaimed and made to produce abundantly. It added in value to the agricultural capital of that State, in twelve years from the commencement of this process of reform. The same results would follow the same measures in all cases in which the power of the soil

have been overtasked; and it is not doubted by those who have closely investigated the subject, that the crop of Indian corn might be trebled without enlarging the surface on which it is now cultivated, and that millions of dollars might be added to the annual value of that crop alone. Nor can it be doubted that the production of the other great staple articles of food might be augmented in a like proportion, increasing enormously the wealth of the country, and furnishing larger surpluses for exportation."

We do not intend to controvert these statements. It is a manifest truth that our prairie lands do not yield more than three heavy crops of wheat in succession. True, in some case, this remark may not be entirely correct; but there are more failures than successes after growing wheat upon land a few years. Corn, however, upon our heavy prairies can be made to produce heavy crops, for years, we do not know how many, if properly cultivated. That quality of the soil which makes wheat seem to be soon exhausted. That it can be restored we have no doubt; a rotation of crops and the cultivation of grasses will do this. And if these precautions are not used, we shall soon on our cultivated land find that our wheat crops are lessening, as years past, in the same manner as they have done in more Eastern States. We have noble soil; but it ought to receive the tender care of those who cultivate them. Cultivate well—return to the soil as you take from it—and the rich possessions which we now have, will go down to future generations, in all their present natural fertility. True it is, that the people of this country are wasting millions of wealth, year by year, which will entail want and poverty on the people who are to come after them.

Old Times.

The habits of the ladies have changed wonderfully, since the days of the wife of Gen. Washington. She was a lady in every sense of that phrase; and especially was she the model of a lady in her management of her household affairs. On one occasion, she was called upon by Mrs. Troupe, the accomplished wife of a British naval officer, of high grade. The lady gave the following account of the visit.

"Well, I honestly tell you, I never was so ashamed in all my life, Madame—and Madame——, and myself, thought we

would visit lady Washington; and as she was said to be so grand a lady, we thought we must put on our best bits and bouds. So we dressed ourselves in our most elegant silks and ruffles, and were introduced to her ladyship. And don't you think, we found her knitting, and with a check apron on! She received us very graciously and easily, but after the compliments were over, she resumed her knitting. There we were, without a single stitch of work and sitting in state; but General Washington's lady with her own hands were knitting stockings for her own husband."

"The Best Bull."

There is much diversity of opinion in relation to the justice of the award for the best bull at the St. Louis fair. The animals offered in competition were: New Year's Day, of Ohio; King Alfred, of Illinois, and Second Duke of Airdrie, of Kentucky. The grand prize of \$1,000 was awarded to the latter animal, owned by Mr. Alexander, of Woodford county, Ky. A correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer*, pronounces in favor of King Alfred, belonging to Mr. J. N. Brown of this county. He says, however, that the decision was a hard one to make. He furnishes the following measurements of the two animals which show a striking similarity in many desirable points, and a superiority in King Alfred in two of the most important points, while he also possesses a most decided advantage in shape of barrel, which the measurements do not indicate:

SECOND DUKE OF AIRDRIE.		KING ALFRED.	
	ft. in.		ft. in.
Length (from poll).....	7 7	Length.....	7 9
Throat Latch.....	4 2	Throat Latch.....	3 11
Brisket.....	8 9 1/2	Brisket.....	8 9 1/2
Girth.....	7 11	Crops.....	8 1
Girth of Crops.....	8 1	Girth of Crops.....	8 2
Girth of Flank.....	8 1 1/4	Girth of Flank.....	8 2
Depth of Flank.....	3 1	Depth of Flank.....	3 2 1/2
With across Hip.....	2	Width of Hip.....	2 1/2
Length of Rump to point of Hip.....	2 7 1/2	Length of Rump to point of Hip.....	2 7
Size of Arm.....	2 4	Arm.....	2 6
Fore Shank, or Shin.....	10	Fore Shank.....	9
Hind Shank.....	10 1/2	Hind Shank.....	9 3/4
Stifle.....	3	Stifle.....	2 10
Length of body to center of hip.....	2 10	Length of body to center of hip.....	3 1 1/2
Length of Rump.....	2 2	Length of Rump.....	2 3 1/2
Hip to Hock.....	3 6 1/2	Hip to Hock.....	3 10

Eggs in Winter.

These are never more acceptable than in winter. Are you willing to do some labor to obtain a supply? If so, make a little building, tight and warm, with large windows well glazed; have good roosting places, good places for the nests; put clean water, lime and ashes before the fowls to roll in; feed the fowls well with grain and meat; keep their house clean, removing the manure every day, and you will have eggs all the time. The eggs from a dozen or twenty fowls will pay you well for your trouble.

American Horses in England.

The late signal triumph of Mr. Ten Broeck's horse, Starke, on the English course, added to the previous winning of the gentleman's horses, have wonderfully changed the opinion of the British jockeys in regard to American horsemanship. The London *Field* gracefully acknowledges the victory, although in the following paragraph it lays more stress upon the skill with which the horse was managed than upon the superior points of the animal. And this is doubtless true, in general, though perhaps England cannot match "Starke" for speed on a short heat. In most other desirable qualities, also American horses are rapidly improving. The last ten years have shown a wonderful change for the better, and it is evident to every observer that the little State of Vermont for breeding, and the rest of New England and New York for training and bringing into repute, are developing and a race of horses which bid fair to become as celebrated as any other in the world. Mr. Ten Broeck's winning will give a new impetus to this progress, and also stimulate the English horse fanciers to fresh effort. We quote the paragraph from *The Field* alluded to above:—

"The American horse, Starke, put all doubts aside as to the lasting qualities of the importations from the Great West. His running in the Goodwood Stakes proved the cleverness of his owner and his trainer. It has induced habitues of a British race course to believe what they have hitherto denied, that natives of other lands can train and "manage" a horse as well as those of their own; and it has let them into a little secret in regard to the American nation in particular, namely that friend Jonathan of the New World is every bit as good a tactician in matters equine as his elder brother of the old one yclept Johnny Bull. The match which this identical nag lost at Newmarket drove the Britishers off their guard, and enabled his party to invest his money at a capital price. They won a large stake, and have amply reimbursed themselves for their outlay in the expense of purchasing horses and importing them to England. The talent of that go-ahead people will not again be questioned. It has been displayed to wondrous advantage in five instances on English turf. Winning one with Caesarewitch and being beaten by a head only for a second with Prioress; winning a Great Yorkshire Handicap with the same mare; and now winning a Goodwood Stakes on Wednesday and the Centineck Memorial on Friday, with a horse landed on these shores but a few months since, and a Nursery Stakes on the latter day with a colt imported at the same time—have set all disputes on the point of cleverness at rest. Civil-

ization and learning have always traveled westward, and the sons of New York have in horse-racing shown themselves to be the most "learned Thebans."

Mercantile Business.

A good many goods are being sold, and many of these goods on credit. There is no fact better settled than that there is not money to pay for the goods now in the hands of our merchants. There is not produce in the country to sell for money enough to buy the goods now in our stores, and pay any portion of the debts now due from farmers. Merchants can't stand such a business. Eastern merchants of whom they buy them will have the money if they break up the whole country. These truths might as well be told. There is little or no money in the country. There is not produce here to bring any large amount of money. We have not begun to see the bottom yet.

Potatoes.

Capital weather for digging and storing potatoes, we had last month. Is it done?

Potatoes are coming from the north. Car loads are delivered in Springfield, at 35 cents per bushel. Potatoes will hardly bring 25 cents next spring.

JESSE FRYE'S GANG PLOWS.—Jesse Frye, well known to our citizens as the inventor of several gang plows, in which he and others have spent a great deal of money, believes he has accomplished his great object, invented a gang plow on principles which will secure his great aims—a great deal of work with little expense, and do that work in a better manner than can be done in the usual way. We suggest to Mr. Frye if he desires to sell his plows here, that he send one to us and we will put it into hands that will give it a fair trial. If it succeeds, as he believes it will, there will most undoubtedly be great sales for the implement.

BUCKWHEAT AS FOOD.—A late issue of *Hunt's Merchant's Magazine*, in an article on buckwheat, thus speaks of it concerning its properties as an edible: Considering the good qualities of buckwheat, it is probably less appreciated than any other bread grain. Writers on agricultural products seem to eschew it as food for man, and regard it only as a mischievous adulteration of wheat flour, or as a product of poor soil fo

cattle. It is of a totally different family of plants from the cereals, and will flourish on sandy hill-sides which are barren for other grain. It is probably the most easily cultivated and the cheapest bread grain the world. It is extensively cultivated in Belgium, and some parts of France, where it forms the basis of food for the inhabitants. Though its properties are very different from wheat, it is nevertheless, quite as rich in all important compounds, and in extremely cold weather it is more substantial than wheat. It is, however, less digestible, and apt to disagree with weak stomachs, or persons unaccustomed to it. By analysis, buckwheat is second to wheat in gluten, but deficient in starch. By the addition of one-fourth quantity of oat or Indian meal to buckwheat flour, the bread is very much improved.

Horses Stolen.

Scarcely a week passes that we do not hear of horses stolen in this state. The thieves have their affairs well arranged—so well, that few horses are recovered. We call attention to the following circular, as proposing one means to find stolen horses. It may not in all cases prove successful, but it would strike us as likely to be of essential service. We see that the *Illinois Journal* already contains notices of horses stolen. The papers containing these notices are found in every country town and leading village in the state, in less than a week. Persons who know of horses or mules about the country, under suspicious circumstances, would do well to examine the columns of the *Illinois Journal*. They might serve the owner by securing for him his stolen horses, and serve themselves by pocketing the reward offered for them.

To the Farmers and others in Illinois who keep Horses:

Within the last few months valuable horses have been stolen in different parts of this State. This has been managed so adroitly that every effort to recover them has failed. It is certain that there are located in most of our Counties men who are associated with Horse thieves, and who play into their hands. It is believed that these men point out the valuable horses, and suggest the mode of taking them. The horses are driven to their depots, and ultimately into remote parts of our State, and other States. The evil is a great one. No valuable horse is safe from the horse thief. Our people are subject to great losses.

CAN ANY THING BE DONE TO

ARREST THIS EVIL? In answer to this question the undersigned would say that a plan has been repeatedly suggested to him, and which, properly carried out, promises to be of valuable service. No man doubts that our present estray law is an excellent one. Under the provisions of that law we are enabled to find most of our estray stock. Can we not, under a similar plan, find our STOLEN HORSES?

The paper which publishes the estray notices is sent to every County Court clerk in the State, and he is required to file it for examination. It is manifest that a man who has his horse stolen, by giving a description and sending it to the publisher of the estray paper, can have the information sent to every county in the State within one week from the time the theft was made. Should a suspicious horse be seen, there are men enough who will take the description, go to the clerk's office, and see if he is not of stolen horses. A stolen horse would thus be likely to be taken up in any part of the State. These descriptions of stolen horses could all be arranged under the head of "HORSE STOLEN." Sheriffs and Constables might readily possess information which would enable them to arrest horse thieves and their stolen property. The cost of publishing such notice should only be one dollar, to be sent with the notice. This would be nothing to the time and money wasted in useless search.

The plan for recovering stolen horses is practical, and likely to be successful. We recommend it to the owners of horses in Illinois. It has been urged upon me by gentlemen whom I respect, to issue a circular embracing these views. In obedience to their wishes, and my own judgment, I have done so.

The same measures can be used in relation to stolen mules.

Horses and mules taken from thieves may also be advertised in the same manner, and thus be restored to their owners.

I have made inquiries of Messrs. Bailhache & Baker to ascertain if they will publish notices of stolen horses at one dollar each for two weeks, under a proper head, in the weekly *State Journal*, which by law is required to be sent to every county clerk in the State.—They answer that they will do this.

Such publication need take patronage from no local publisher of a newspaper in the State; and I feel confident that their regard for the farmers and the public generally, who are suffering from professional horse thieves, will induce them to copy this circular, and give the plan suggested their entire concurrence.

S. FRANCIS,

Cor. Sec. Ill. State Ag. Society.

THE TOMB OF RACHEL.—The Hon. James Brooks, senior editor of the *New York Express*, writes to that journal from the Holy Land, as follows:—

Upon my return to Bethlehem I rode by the tomb of Rachel—a small building with a whitened dome, and having within it a high, oblong monument, built of brick and stuccoed over. The spot is wild and solitary—and not a tree spread its shades where rests the beautiful mother of Israel. Christian, Jew and Moslem all agree that this is just the spot where Rachel was buried, and all unite in honoring it. The Turks are anxious that their ashes may rest near hers, and hence their bodies have been strewn under tombs all around the simple tomb of Rachel. The sweet domestic virtues of the wife have won their love and admiration, as the tomb of Absalom, near the brook of Kedron, their detestation; upon the latter they throw a stone, to mark their horror of the disobedient son, while around the former, they wish, when they die, their bodies may be interred. Nor is this wonderful. The wife, worth fourteen years of service as shepherd, must have been a wife worth having. The whole life of Rachel is, indeed, one of the most touching in Biblical history. The sweet shepherdess has left her mark upon the memory of man, as well as her tomb. The tribute to her is the tribute to a good wife, and Infidel, Jew and Christian all combine to pay it. The great women of the earth—the Zenobias and the Cleopatras—have died, been buried, and their very place of burial been forgotten; but to this day stands over the grave of Rachel, not the pillar Jacob set up, but a modern monument in its place, around which pilgrims from every land under the sun gather, in respect and reverence for the faithful wife and good mother in Israel.

Benefits of Agricultural Fairs.

The principle of association—the practice of bringing men together bent on the same general object, pursuing the same general end, uniting their intellectual and their physical efforts to that purpose, is a great improvement in the present age. And it has become essential to the best interests of the farmers of the Commonwealth, that these annual fairs should be established, and that they should be universally attended. From the meeting of men together who have the same general pursuits of life—that they may compare one with another—that they may compare with each other their experience, and that they may keep up a constant communication. It is in this point of view—in this greatly practical point of view—that these annual fairs are of importance.

Why, gentlemen, every man obtains a very great portion of all that he knows in this world, by conversation. Conversation—intercourse with other minds—is the general source of most of our knowledge. Books do

something, but every man has not the opportunity to read. It is conversation that improves. If any of us, learned or unlearned, deduct what he has learned by conversation from what he knows, he would find but very little left, and that little not of the most valuable kind. It is conversation; it is the meeting of men, face to face, and talking over what they have common in interest; it is this intercourse that makes men sharp, intelligent, ready to communicate to others, and ready to receive intimations from them, and ready to act upon those only which they receive by this communication.

Therefore, if there were not a thing exhibited—if there were not a good pair of steeds, nor a fine horse, nor a likely cow in the whole county—if there be no society, if there be ladies, wives and daughters, if there be those connected with the tillage of the land, I say that these annual meetings are highly important to progress in the art to which they refer. I came here as a poor farmer, to meet with other better farmers, ready to receive from them any intimation their experience may have taught, and desirous only of suggesting something for their reflection which, now or hereafter, may draw their attention, and draw it usefully to some thing in the agricultural art.—Hon. Daniel Webster.

HOW THEY PREDICT THE WEATHER AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE.—Prof. Henry, at the Scientific Association, gave an account of the method pursued each day at the Smithsonian Institute to record and predict the weather. They have a map of the United States hung upon a board, with pins stuck through it at the points where the observers are stationed. The institute has daily reports by telegraph from many of these points. Each morning an assistant hangs a cord on the pins to indicate the state of the weather—black if raining, green if snowing, brown if cloudy, white if fair. All storms travel east, and thus they are enabled to predict with great certainty the condition of the weather twelve hours in advance.

COST OF RAISING WHEAT.—At a township meeting held in Logan township, Peoria county, recently, the question of the profit of raising wheat was discussed, and the following estimate on twenty-five acres was made and agreed upon as fair:

Rent, at \$3 50.....	\$87 50
Plowing.....	25 00
Sowing.....	2 00
Harrowing.....	12 00
Seed, 37½ bushels at 25 cents.....	28 75
Harvesting and putting in shocks.....	37 50
	\$192 75

Cost of threshing and getting to market, 18 cents per bushel. With wheat selling at 75 cents per bushel, it would require 13½ bushels to the acre to pay expenses.

DRESSING FOR ROAST FOWLS.—Spread pieces of stale but tender wheaten bread liberally with butter, and season rather high with salt and pepper, working them into the butter; then dip the bread in wine, and use it in as large pieces as is convenient to stuff the bird. The delicious flavor which the wine gives is very penetrating, and it gives the fowl a rich gamey character, which is very pleasant.

The Illinois Farmer.

We shall soon enter upon the 5th volume of the *Illinois Farmer*. We are anxious to greatly extend the subscription of this paper. This can be done by a small effort on the part of those who are now subscribers. We ask them to make this effort. We believe that in doing this they will subserve the interest of our great agricultural community as well as our own. No farmer ought to be without an agricultural periodical. The price of ours is so low, that every farmer can have it. Will farmers, to save the sum of 75 cents, deprive their families of an agricultural periodical? The produce of a single fowl, will pay for it.

We give below a prospectus issued two months since. We ask our readers to examine it, and to do what they can to receive subscriptions. They will lay us under obligations in doing so. The main object the editor of this paper has in bestowing his labor upon it, is to advance the interests of the profession with the success of which he is identified.

THE ILLINOIS FARMER

On the first of January, 1860, The *Illinois Farmer* will have been published four years. In presenting the prospectus for the fifth volume, we will say that it will be continued in its present form, be published on the first of each month, and will, as formerly, be devoted to the interests of the farmers of Illinois, aiming to treat all matters which come under its notice in a plan and comprehensive manner, so as to be entirely understood by all its readers. The experience of the past will enable us to improve The Farmer; and we trust will also render it worthy of the continued patronage of the farmers of our State.

The Farmer, being published but once a month, does not come into competition with other Agricultural publications of Illinois; and the same facts requires that it be exclusively occupied with matters pertaining to Agriculture and Domestic Economy.

The small price of the publication will enable every farmer to procure it, and no farmer, at this day, can afford to carry on his business without one or more of the Agricultural Papers.

In clubs or packages it is sent to subscribers at a very low price, and but little above its cost. With a very little effort our friends can get up large packages in most neighborhoods and can in this manner be essential service to them and to us.

Latterly, the *Illinois Farmer* has been extensively AWARDED AS PREMIUMS AT COUNTY FAIRS. We suggest to officers of Agricultural Societies the more extensive use of Agricultural Papers for this purpose. It is obvious that this

disposition of them (scattering them, perhaps, where they will not otherwise go,) will be of more real service to the people as premiums, than any other which may be awarded them. The subject is worthy of the serious consideration of those gentlemen who do the labor of the County Agricultural Societies.—The price of the *Illinois Farmer*, in large numbers, is so low as to make this suggestion of importance to Agricultural Societies, also, as a pecuniary measure.

We invite our agricultural friends throughout the State to interest themselves for us in behalf of our next volume; and we promise on our part to do our best to promote an interest to which our life is devoted.

As heretofore The Farmer will be under the editorial control of S. FRANCIS, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, and being published at Springfield, the center of the State, is well adapted for general circulation and usefulness.

Each number contains forty-eight columns of reading matter, including the market reports, etc. It is printed with clear type on fine white paper, and will make a neat volume for binding.

TERMS:

One copy one year in advance.....	\$1 00
Five copies " ".....	3 75
Ten " " ".....	7 50
[And one to the person getting up the club.]	
Fifteen copies and over, (2½ cts. each, and one to the person getting up the club.)	
County Agricultural Societies supplied at 62½ cts. per copy.	

Specimen copies furnished on application.

Address: THE ILLINOIS FARMER,
Springfield Illinois.

BOILING POTATOES.—The Irish method of boiling potatoes, for obvious reasons, ought to be as good as any. Here is the practice adopted by many of that ilk, and not a few besides: Clean wash the potatoes and leave the skin on; then bring the water to a boil and throw them in. As soon as boiled soft enough for a fork to be easily through them, dash some cold water into the pot, let the potatoes remain two minutes, and then pour off the water. This done, half remove the pot lid, and let the potatoes remain over a slow fire till the steam is evaporated; then peel and set them on the table in an open dish. Potatoes of a good kind thus cooked, will always be sweet, dry and mealy. A covered dish is bad for potatoes, as it keeps the steam in, and makes them soft and watery.

TO REMOVE FRECKLES.—The best preparation to remove freckles, which are so common at this season, is a teaspoonful of cold, sour milk, and a small quantity of scraped horse radish. Let it stand from nine to twelve hours, then use it to wash the parts affected two or three times a day. Another mixture of a half a drachm of ammonia, two drachms of lavender water, and half a

pint of distilled water. Use it with a sponge two or three times a day. A still simpler composition is a quarter of a drachm of borax, half a drachm of sugar, and one ounce of lemon juice. Mix and let it stand for a few days, and then rub it on occasionally.

How a Chick is Hatched.

In conversation with Judge Butler, of Norwalk, a few days since, he explained the operation of the hatching process, which is so beautiful and philosophical, that as we have never seen it explained in books, we repeat it to our readers.

The chick within the egg breathes through the shell; in the silky membrane lining of the shell the blood circulates, and is thus brought in contact with outer air.

The head of the chick is in a position as if it had been brought round under the wing and over on the back—a little one side of course—in such a position that the least muscular exertion will press the beak against the shell, and about in the middle, and when any violent struggle is made, it will break a little hole in the shell. Now this little movement of the head, perhaps an eighth of an inch forward, turns the chick in the shell so that when the head is drawn back into its normal position, it is brought against another portion of the shell. The next struggle breaks a fresh hole, and so on, each struggle making a new opening in the shell.

These struggles, as the chick gains strength from breathing the fresh air, become more frequent. Finally, in the course of half a day perhaps, as it goes on turning itself in its shell, the little blood vessels which originally formed a connection between the chick and the lining membrane of the shell, are drawn so tight as to prevent circulation, or are twisted off, and when holes have been punctured and the shell cracked about two-thirds around, the shell falls apart and the young chanticler steps out into a new world.

Occasionally the lining membrane of the egg is so tough that the shell parts from it, and leaves it unbroken, except in the little holes described, and so if not seen in time the chick dies; a pair of scissors will effect a liberation.

It is dangerous to attempt to take a chick from the egg before it has, as will be evinced by the cracked shell, turned itself nearly or quite two-thirds round; otherwise the blood vessels spoken of will be broken, and the chick either bleed to death or be long in recovering.

The whole process may be watched if the egg be kept warm in the hand, and observed as its struggles call attention to it. This will not interfere with reading or writing, and is instructive and interesting.—*Homestead.*

To COOK CARROTS.—Boil carrots

till very tender; cut them in cross pieces, put them in a sauce-pan with a teacup of cream, a small piece of butter, salt and a little cayenne pepper, and send to the table hot.

Lice on Fowls.

A subscriber wishes to be informed how to exterminate the vermin that frequently infect hens and hen roosts, and &c. Prevention when practicable is always better than cure. Strict cleanliness about the roosts and nests, will always prevent hens from becoming lousy. The droppings under the hens should be removed frequently, the nests often renewed, and air-slacked lime and ashes scattered around the floors and roosts. Boxes of dry ashes and lime should always be kept under or over where the fowls can have constant access to them, that they may wallow in at pleasure. With these precautions fowls that are free from vermin will never be infested. But where they have become lousy the roosts should be thoroughly swept and cleaned, the straw and litter from the nests entirely removed, and the wood work and roost poles of the house whitewashed with fresh slacked lime, into which a quantity of sulphur or tobacco has been mixed. A day or two before this operation the fowls should be fed with coarse cornmeal wet with milk or water into which a quantity of sulphur has been mixed. Feed with this several days, it may then be omitted for a few days, and repeated again at intervals of three or four days, and continued in this way until all the nits have hatched, when the insects will drop off and leave the fowls. Thorough cleanliness after this will generally exterminate them. Fowls are always poor and unthrifty, and setting hens are seldom successful in hatching their eggs when annoyed with vermin; a little care is all that is necessary to prevent it.

THE BEST MODE OF PRESERVING EGGS—REMARKABLE PRESERVATION OF VITALITY IN EGGS.—The most simple and successful method of preserving eggs for fall and winter use is to employ a pint of lime and a pint of salt, mixed with a bucket of water, and after packing the eggs in a jar or keg, with the small end downwards, in successive layers, then carefully turn in the mixture until the eggs are covered.

In our travels in Kentucky we stopped at a place where probably the largest number of fowls are kept in the State, and we were shown some small chickens that were hatched from eggs that were packed in August (1858,) and preserved according to the above directions. Six of the eggs thus preserved were marked and placed under a hen, together with eight fresh laid ones. Every egg but one hatched, which was one of the marked ones. The fact was so remarkable that it led to doubts in the minds of some of the family, whether there must not have been some mistake in the matter, when the female, who had the chickens in charge, and who had

raised the present season about one thousand, repeated the trial, taking eight eggs from the same keg near the lower tier, and placed them under a hen with no other eggs: in due time five of these eggs hatched out strong and healthy chickens; a sixth egg was thrown out of the nest and was broken, when it was discovered that it contained a live chick. Thus it will be seen that eggs by this method can not only be preserved from eight to nine months perfectly fresh, but that the living principle can be retained and the eggs hatched. These eggs were put into a keg or half barrel and headed up so as to be nearly or quite air tight, and then placed in a cool cellar, where they remained all winter. The fresh, natural appearance of the eggs, when broken to be cooked, led to the idea of testing their vitality by an effort to hatch them.

The Market for Grain.

The United States *Economist* has a very interesting article under the above heading, from which we extract the following:

The return to high duties on grain in France has been regarded as an abnegation of the free trade system that the Emperor was supposed to favor. The Corn laws were suspended in 1849, and during ten years the trade has been comparatively free, but the crops have not been good. Last winter, after the crops of 1858 had been ascertained to be abundant, the Emperor resolved on the Italian campaign, and as the protectionists had clamored for a restoration of duties, and it was important to conciliate all parties on the eve of a war, the duties were restored, but this time—when the crops are good—they are virtually inoperative. The duties, however, are both import and export.—The frontier departments are divided into four classes, which are, in turn, for commerce, divided into sections, and every section has certain towns, designated as regulating markets. In all these markets the authorities publish monthly the average price of every kind of grain, and the duty, both for exportation and importation, is proportioned to this average, with the fixed purpose of preventing exportation, except when grain is plenty, and shutting out imports except when it is scarce, the export duty rising faster than the price of grain, and the import duty rising as grain declines. The effect has been to stop the milling trade in the Northern departments, whence flour was sent to England in competition with American flour.

The superior skill, or other causes, enabled the French millers to take ordinary qualities of English Wheat, and produce a superior Flour, that found a large market in England. This trade will now probably undergo some modification. The result of the harvest in Great Britain this year is that the quantity in England, Scotland and Wales is a full average.—The yield in France is said to be less than last season. Germany and Russia have fair average crops. The question then is, what will England want? To solve this question, we have only to compare what she has required for the last few years as shown by official reports.

IMPORTS INTO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Cwt.	Other grain. Qrs.	Total all grain. Qrs.
1853.....	4,915,430	4,621,586	3,937,275	10,173,135
1854.....	3,431,237	3,645,505	3,43,459	7,900,544
1855.....	2,667,702	1,904,224	3,067,047	6,278,313
1856.....	4,073,833	3,970,100	4,132,78	9,339,428
1857.....	3,437,957	2,178,148	5,108,895	9,169,189
1858.....	4,341,119	3,856,127	5,877,702	11,276,262
1859—7 months.....	2,580,681	2,623,091		

In the face of falling prices in England, the

imports have continued large, mostly from France, while the quantity of old wheat in the hands of English farmers in the last week in August is put at 24,000,000 bushels. The imports into Great Britain during the first 7 months of this year were 1,029,788 bushels wheat, and 2,409,870 bbls flour from France, and only 3,228 bushels wheat, and 24,863 bbls flour from the United States, showing that France and the United States have changed positions since last year, when the United States sent to England 392,831 bushels wheat and 1,338,792 bbls flour, and France only 498,958 bushels wheat and 173,031 bbls flour. The importations from France, however, have been large lately, under the anticipation of the operation of the tariff in September.

The position of affairs in England is about as follows: First, Full average crops in quantity. Second, Full average spring crops, beans, barley, oats, etc. Third, On hand 3,000,000 quarters wheat. Fourth, Usual stock in warehouse. Fifth, Nine years' average of wheat, 54s 5d $\frac{1}{2}$ qr. Sixth, Since January, average of wheat, 43s 5d $\frac{1}{2}$ qr. Seventh, present price of wheat, 44s 1d $\frac{1}{2}$ qr. It follows, that the English supply is such that she will require little from France. The crops of the continent now, besides France, are good, and 5,000,000 quarters may be obtained for the coming year, without aid from the United States, notwithstanding the low prices of transportation. The abundance of food is a good augury for the general improvement of the commercial interests of the world, if it is not directly propitious for the food sellers.

Gutta Percha.

In its crude state, Gutta Percha has no resemblance whatever to India Rubber, nor are its chemical or mechanical properties the same, nor does the tree from which it is taken belong to the same family of trees, or grow in the same soil; yet, from the fact that it can be dissolved, and wrought into water-proof wares, many, not informed upon the subject, have inclined to the belief that the two materials are identically, or very nearly the same. But nothing could be more erroneous, as may be seen by the following comparisons:

Gutta Percha is produced from the Isonandra or Gutta tree; is a sap of a brownish color which, when exposed to the air, soon solidifies, and forms the Gutta Percha of commerce. It is a fibrous material, much resembling the inner coat of white oak bark, is extremely tenacious, and without elasticity or much flexibility; may be melted and cooled any number of times without injury for further manufacture; is not injured by coming in contact with grease or other fatty substances; resists the action of sulphuric, muriatic, and nearly every other acid; is a non-conductor of electricity, as well as heat and cold. When exposed to boiling water it contracts and becomes soft like dough, when it may be moulded into any desirable shape, which it will retain when cool; has an exceedingly fine oily grain, and is not an absorbent, but a perfect repellant of water.

India Rubber, or Caoutchouc, is produced from a milk white sap, taken chiefly from the *Sæphoca Cahuca* tree, which soon coagulates, when the whey is pressed out, or dried off by heat—the residue is the India Rubber of commerce. It is of a soft gummy nature, not very tenacious and astonishingly elastic. When reduced to a liquid by heat it appears like tar, and is unfit for further manufacture. By coming in contact

with grease or other fatty substances it is soon decomposed, and ruined for further use. If brought in contact with sulphuric, muriatic, and other acids it soon chars it. It is a conductor of heat; cold and electricity; exposed to the action of boiling water does lose its elastic properties, increases in bulk and cannot be moulded; is not a perfect repellant of water, but more or less absorbent.

The term "vulcanized" is applied to fabrics of Gutta Percha or India Rubber, which have been cured or tanned, by submitting them to a high degree of artificial heat; the object being to change the nature of the gum so it will not afterwards be affected by heat and cold.

Gutta Percha is vulcanized for the purpose of giving it elasticity and pliability, and is entirely free from unpleasant odor; will not decompose and become sticky under any circumstances. When exposed to friction it wears away dry; is still a nonconductor, and by vulcanization is not injured in its incomparable repellant properties.

India Rubber is vulcanized to reduce its elasticity, and give it more firmness than is natural to the crude material.

Our readers are referred to the advertisement of the Gutta Percha Manufacturing Company.

INSECTS AS SEEN IN THE MICROSCOPE.

—The wings of insects are very interesting objects, both to look at unassisted, and with the microscope. The wings of the horse fly are found to be covered with minute stiff short hairs; the black net-work of lines that we see in them are elastic honey tubes, over which the membrane is stretched like the silk of an umbrella over its ribs. Bees have a very curious mode of strengthening their flight, in the shape of hooks and corresponding doublings on the edges of their wings, so that when they are flying these are kept expanded by even extra aids to the elastic ribs and tightened membrane. Who would have thought of a bee hooking and eyeing himself out in that manner! All sorts of theories have held ground successively, respecting the feet of flies. First they were suckers, and they walked by means of exhaustion and atmospheric pressure; then they were grappling irons, and they hooked themselves to microscopic inequalities by means of invisible hooks; then they were glue-pots and exuded a natural gum, which gummed the insect at every step; now we believe they are assumed to be all three: claws, or spines, to hook; pads, or cushions, to preserve them from abrasion (these pads were the original suckers;) hairlets as sucking disks, that exude a certain moisture. All these hypotheses are found to be true, as always happens in cases when truth unrolls itself in sections.

The scales on the wings of insects are a world in themselves. The little bristle tail which leaves a thick dust on your finger, though touched ever so lightly, leaves in that dust a mass of metallic scales of all shapes. Oval, heart-shaped, round, elliptic, long and narrow, shovel-shaped, they lie under the microscope like a collection of fairy toys, all made out of gems. The sugar-louse has oval or shovel-shaped scales, set on to a stalk and arranged like a fan: the five

plume moth of the summer meadow has them willow-leaved in shape, sometimes singly pointed, but generally noticed with two, three or four notches; the six-spot burnet moth has them lustrous but opaque; the blue butterfly, shaped like a battledore; the buff-tipped moth has large scales like a fan, the magnificent emperor has them triangular; while some have them fringed, some pear-shaped, and others corrugated, but all overlapping each other, or tiled. The diamond beetle is the most splendid fellow of the lot. He has a row of precious stones in his flat transparent scales that irradiate the whole field with their gleaming glory. Those precious stones are set on to broad bands of black velvet, velvet and jewels alternating in stripes in the most regal and enchanting manner. Few objects are so beautiful as the scales of the diamond beetle, with their royal richness and burning glory.

PRESERVING SQUASHES.—It is presumed that the squashes have been gathered ere this, and put in a cool, dry place, where they have the heat of the sun during the day, and are protected from frost at night. When freezing weather approaches they should be removed to a room having a dry atmosphere, and at a temperate warmth. A room above the kitchen is not a bad place in most instances. Great care should be observed in handling, as a very slight injury inflicted may cause the speedy decay of the whole fruit. There is no conceivable reason why every farmer in the country should not enjoy the luxury of superior squash pies during the whole winter, and, if he raises enough, they may grace his table in March or April. A proper regard of these precautions will without doubt secure so desirable an end.

LINSEED CAKE FOR HEIFERS BEFORE CALVING.—C. S. Flint, in his new and valuable work, *Milk cows and Dairy Farming*, says that heifers fed with a little linseed cake, in addition to their other fodder, for three months before calving, acquire a larger development of the milk vessels, and yield more milk afterward than others fed as usual. He thinks cotton-seed cake would answer equally as well.

BARRELS FOR FRUIT.—Everything in contact with fruit should be clean and sweet, and the vessel in which it is placed should be dry and tight. Old flour barrels should not be used unless well washed and dried, as the particles of flour will mould and impart to the fruit an unpleasant odor and flavor. Old lime barrels, it is said, are excellent for this purpose—the lime absorbing the vapor and gases. If this is so, a little fresh slacked lime scattered on the bottom, sides and top of the barrel, would be beneficial.

PRESERVING DAHLIA ROOTS.—Take up the roots on a dry day, after the tops have been killed by frost. Let them remain exposed to the sun and air till quite dry. All the soil should be taken off them. When quite dry, put them on a shelf in the cellar; or in a box or barrel of dry sand. The name of the variety should be written on a wooden label, and attached to the root with wire.

So, in nearly all agricultural countries, wooden fences are generally used, until that material becomes too scarce or too valuable for such uses, when recourse must be had to some other means. It appears that England was the first country to adopt the expedient of *live fencing*, and in no other part of the globe have hedges been brought to greater perfection. From time immemorial they have constituted the charm of the rural districts of England, where they form, not only the most effective and secure fences, but impart to the landscape a richness of finish which nothing else can equal. There they take great pride in their hedges, and bestow upon them

great labor and pains to keep them in perfect shape and condition. Long time must elapse before we can expect to see our go-ahead people exercise so much care and patience, merely to give a pleasing effect to the appearance of their hedges. For the present at least, we shall expect to see them influenced only by considerations of utility and economy, in which view alone it is the writer's aim to present the claims of live fencing, as an enterprise eminently adapted to our country, while at the same time it takes rank as a first class necessity. To be convinced that the non-inclosure system (advocated by a few,) will never obtain in a country like ours, we have only to take a glance at our rural population, with its great diversity of tests, sentiments and conditions.

The fence, though an expensive item of husbandry, is indispensable; it therefore behooves us to thoroughly canvass the various modes, and adopt the one that proves the most efficacious, the most complete and durable barrier, while, at the same time, it involves the least cost in its construction and perpetuity. This we claim for the live fence; 1st—because when properly made it forms the most complete and impassible barrier against all stock. 2d—the average cost of rearing the hedge, especially on the prairies, will be found to be far less than that of any sufficient wooden fence. 3d—the completed hedge will improve for years, and its benefit will insure to future generations, whilst the fence of *dead wood* in any form, is steadily decaying and subject to prostration by the wind and destruction by fire, and at the best requires renewing every few years. The annual trimming of the former will prove a much lighter tax than the constant repairs required by the latter. We can of course form but a vague estimate of the advantage to our whole country which might result from the general adoption of this plan of live fencing. The aggregate cost of the fences in any well settled prairie township, even would astonish any one not accustomed to think of it. One of the shrewdest calculators, (Dr. Pennington, of Sterling,) has shown that if all the arable lands of Illinois, or say two-thirds of the State, were fenced into fields of convenient size, at the ordinary or average cost, it would require the enormous sum of \$140,000,000! Now, it is our settled conviction that at least one-half of this immense sum might be saved in the first cost, by the adoption of the hedging system, while the saving in a series of years would be incalculable.

Nature has given us a soil of unsurpassed richness, and every condition necessary to growth of fences upon it. She has also furnished us with a material exactly suited to the purpose. Though

thousands have failed with the Maclura, from experience and want of proper care, not a single instance has occurred within the writer's knowledge, in which a failure has been the result of a fair trial.

On the other hand, many have succeeded, and are now enjoying the security, satisfaction and delight resulting from their judicious efforts. With them hedging is in high favor. Many testimonials from such persons might be produced to corroborate our assertions, but we will select only one, an extract from a letter of Mr. Henry J. Chase, one of the best practical *wholesale* farmers in the State.

An inspection of his own extensive farm, as well as those belonging to Jubilee College, which he also superintends, convinces one that he does nothing "by halves." In fact he is just such a farmer as Illinois has reason to be proud of.

ROBIN'S NEST, Oct. 13th, 1857.

DEAR SIR:—I am better pleased this year with the looks of our hedges than ever. There are hundreds of miles in this neighborhood that are not perfect fences. I have yet to see the first plant that has been winter-killed, that was over two years old, while winter before last killed over one hundred seeding apple trees in the old orchard planted by Prince, thirty years since. There is a great deal of hedge in this neighborhood that two years ago I thought would never make a fence, it had been so much neglected and was so full of gaps. This spring it was "plashed" and is now a perfect fence. As to the cost, any farmer can calculate it for himself. After paying for the plants and setting, it will cost just the same as a row of potatoes, and this labor is required only two years, the third year only one plowing in June, and the hedge is ready to lay by. The best fence I have seen is that that has had the least trimming. I have now some twenty miles completed and turned out, which is entirely stock proof.

Yours, very truly,

HENRY J. CHASE."

By the above it will be seen that to Mr. C., at least, the hedging has not proved a "humbug," nor will it prove so to any one (favorably situated,) who will pursue the same straight-forward course, and simply DO THINGS RIGHT.

There is no reason why any farmer in Illinois may not succeed by the same rule and with the same certainty as Mr. Chase, provided his land is dry enough for ordinary tillage. All that is required is a knowledge of cultivation, (which is extremely simple,) and a resolute will to carry it out. There are now few intelligent farmers who will not readily admit that a good hedge may be made of the Maclura, and that it is every way calculated to supply the great defect of

our country. But the question is heard in every quarter, "How are we to get our fences made? We have so much on hand that if we undertake to hedge we shall be apt to neglect it and fail, as many have already done. We have no further confidence in the 'hedge speculators' since they have overrun the country, made a 'botch' of the whole affair, and generally 'fizzled out.'" &c., &c. We would suggest to the farmers, that if they cannot employ men in whom they can rely to make their hedges, that they go at this important undertaking themselves, *in earnest*. To be content to farm less for the time being, or if need be hire a good reliable hand, and make it his business to attend to the setting and cultivation of the hedges in the proper season, under your own supervision.

The following directions and remarks are deduced from long experience and close observation, and the writer has endeavored to make them so plain and explicit that no one who follows them strictly need fail in the attempt. *Resolve to "win"* if you commence, for in no other undertaking is a failure so despicable and sickening as in this.

THE VARIOUS HEDGE PLANTS.

Besides the Maclura, or Osage Orange, there are a number of tree shrubs, which have been successfully used for hedges, a few of which we will notice here.

The *Virginia Thorn* is perfectly hardy, bears cutting well, grows thick, and by plashing it forms a sufficiently strong and close hedge, easily shorn and highly ornamental, but it requires long time, and care and practice to perfect it.

The *Buck Thorn* is very hardy. It grows faster than the above, and with many stems when cropped, but it is nearly destitute of thorns and spines. Ornamental hedges are formed of the *Privet*, and some other shrubs, but for this purpose nothing is so charming as a row of well clipped *evergreens*, though only adapted to gardens, lawns, &c. The varieties most suitable are the *Red* and *White Cedars*, the *Siberian Arborvitae*, the *Hemlock*, the *Norway Spruce*, &c. For the farm and field hedge, (of which it is our present purpose to treat,) there is probably no plant in the vegetable kingdom better adapted to our purpose than the Maclura; to it, therefore, will the details of the following pages exclusively apply.

THE SEED, PREPARATION, &c.

The seed of the Maclura, as almost every one knows, is brought from Texas, where the tree grows wild. It is sometimes damaged in the process of getting it out, and sometimes in transportation, and if not thoroughly dry when stored in bulk it is liable to heat and destroy the germ. Good seed, on being cut or broken, appear bright, lively and crisp,

with minute sparkles in the sunlight. Unsound seed is easily detected by the dull, lifeless appearance of the gem.—The usual method of preparing the seed for vegetating is to soak it in warm water, and expose it to hard freezing a few times, after which, it must be kept moist and cool till the time of planting arrives. Another and a more effectual way is to soak the seed in running water, or in a pond or body of water some three or four weeks previous to planting, when it may be taken out and dried sufficient for drilling, and planted at once.

SEED PLANTING AND CULTIVATION OF THE PLANTS.

The ground for the seed bed should be rich and well handled. New ground on which one crop of wheat has been raised may be considered best. If the seed are to be planted by hand, a strong line, a garden rake, a drill rake with two teeth will be needed. The teeth of the latter should be made of steel and polished, about three inches in width, and tapering or rounding at the end. Stretch and set the line, next rake the border smooth and fine, then by drawing the drill rake by the line you make two furrows at once, a foot apart, rather wide and shallow, about two inches deep, in which sow the seed regularly, about twenty-five seed to the foot. Before the seed has time to dry cover them two inches deep, with fine mellow soil. A space two feet wide should be left between the double rows, and if the ground should be weedy, three feet, to admit a cultivator to pass between them.

In field culture of plants the seed are put in with a common wheat drill, about a bushel and a peck to the acre. Should beating rains cause the ground to brake before the seed come through it is well to break the crust. Mice, striped squirrels and other vermin are fond of the seed, and where they abound, they are very troublesome, as they continue to dig it up and devour it, even after the plants are up. Prairie chickens are also very fond of the lobe leaves, which they crop off soon after the plants come up. Sometimes beating rains, with wind, will prostrate the plants while they are small. When that is the case, they should be raised up and slightly braced. In the cultivation it is necessary to keep the ground loose and free from weeds. This is done chiefly by hoeing and hand-weeding. If the plants are too thick in places it is well to thin out the small ones about midsummer, as the most particular point in plant culture is evenness in size—neither too large nor too small.

TAKING UP AND HANDLING THE PLANTS.

Plants of the *Maclura* should grow sufficiently large in one season to set in hedges, if everything is favorable. It is generally safer to take up the plants in the fall and secure them for winter. After the frost has killed the leaves, the

tops may be mowed off at a uniform height of about six inches, and the tops raked up and removed. The roots strike down very deep and require to be cut off some six or eight inches below the surface. This is done with a subsoil cutter—a plow without the mould-board, made for the purpose. It is drawn by a strong team, and may be regulated to any depth. If kept sharp it cuts the roots off smooth and leaves the plants standing in the row, but easy to pull up and sort at the same time. The plants may be tied up in bundles of one or two hundred, with bass bark or tough willow shoots. The roots must not be exposed to the frost, nor long to the drying sunshine.

KEEPING THE PLANTS THROUGH WINTER.

A sure method of keeping the plants in perfect order through the winter is to bury them below the frost, on ground that is rolling enough to drain off the water, which, if permitted to stand about the plants, may cause them to sour and be spoiled. They may also be kept perfectly sound by packing closely in a good, dry cellar and covering very slightly with earth, sawdust or old sacking, to keep the frost out and the moisture in—sprinkle when necessary. It is most important that the plants be kept in perfect order. If left out through the winter they are liable to be injured or spoiled.

ASSORTING AND PREPARING THE PLANTS.

The first and most important requisite in hedge culture is the *equal and uniform growth of the plants*. To insure this it is necessary that they should be assorted into classes, with reference to their size and vigor. This requires the exercise of care and judgment, and it may be done on taking out the plants in early spring, or after the freezing weather is over. Keep each class of plants separate, cut off the unsound or bruised ends of the roots to where the bark and wood is fresh and not discolored. Six inches of good sound root is sufficient.

The next operation is to prepare a grout or mortar, by mixing equal parts of cow-dung and clay, well beaten together, and made thin enough to admit the roots, into which they are to dipped, a handful at a time, so that all may be well coated with it. Next dig a sloping trench, into which place the plants straight, with the roots even and the tops above the surface, sift in fine dirt among the roots, and cover two inches deeper than the top of the roots; tread the ground firm about the plants, and if the weather be dry sprinkle them twice a week. In this condition let them remain a few weeks, or till vegetation commences, when they will be ready to set in the hedge row. Plants and trees thus trenched will start earlier than if set at

once, and if carefully handled will be more certain to grow.

PREPARATION OF THE GROUND.

Clear off a strip ten or twelve feet in width, in the middle of which the hedge row is to be set. Plant a tall stake at each end, and by these range stakes along the line. Plow the strip deep, throwing outward, finishing with a deep, straight furrow, in the line of the stakes. This plowing is better to be done in the fall previous, in order to secure the advantage of amelioration by the action of the frost, but if this has been neglected it should be done as early as possible in the spring. If the land is rolling, with sharp or long slopes, it will be necessary to make bars or dams at short intervals, with side cuts or furrows to turn out the water in case of heavy rains, and thus prevent washing in the furrow. In this condition the ground may lie till near the time for planting. If the ground is cloddy, harrow it lightly, then throw the sides together by "back furrowing;" by this means you will form a deep, rich, mellow border, which is very essential. When the bed is finished it is to be a few inches higher than the common level, and it should be allowed to settle a few days, otherwise (unless the plants are set very deep) the ground will recede from the plants in settling, and show the yellow roots, as in too shallow planting—a fatal error.

TRANSPLANTING.

When the buds have expanded and the leaves are half an inch long, we consider the plants in the best condition for settling. If a moist time can be chosen, it is the most favorable. Various methods of planting are practiced, and it matters little by what means or with what implements it is done, so it is well done. The most essential points in hedge setting may be reduced to four, viz: TO PLANT DEEP, TO PLANT FIRM, TO PLANT CLOSE, AND TO PLANT STRAIGHT.

The most "scientific" mode of planting is done with a steel transplanting trowel, polished and kept perfectly bright. It is, however, a laborious and careful operation, requiring the border to be well raked, and the operator to work upon his knees, besides there is more danger of not planting deep enough, if planted in the upright position. We therefore deem it safer to recommend planting with the "hedge spade," as it is now more generally used for that purpose than any other implement. To be right it should be made with a longer, narrower and more tapering blade, (which must be well polished,) and rather longer handle than the common spade. The stakes having been reset, the hedge line must be well stretched and set in exact range. It should be a light, strong cord, and for convenience, about ten rods long. The line is kept steady

by sticking by the side of it several small stakes with hitches cut into them in which the line is passed. This method of planting requires a man to handle the spade and a boy to set in the plants and the two, if expert, may set half a mile in a day.

If the weather be dry the plants should be grouted a second time, or they may be carried in a basket and covered with moist sawdust to keep them from the air. When all is ready the spade is thrust down by the side of the line, at an angle of about forty-five degrees, and at least twelve inches deep, it is slightly pushed forward by which motion an opening is formed underneath, in which the plant is to be run down nearly its whole length, and held there till the spade is withdrawn. The spade is again put down, forward, at the proper distance and the operation repeated to the end. Working in this way the operator will tread and impact the loose soil above each plant, which is essentially necessary. In regard to distance apart we cannot too strongly recommend close planting.—Our firm conviction is that more failures have resulted from too wide planting than from any other mistake in hedge culture. In no case would we advise any one to set wider than four inches apart. We have yet to see the first hedge with too much "stock" in it, or the plants set too close. No danger of over crowding them, besides if they are set close there will be no need of replanting when only one in a place fails. The plants should be critically examined before setting, and not a single one of doubtful vigor, or soundness should be put in the hedge row; yet, as there may be occasion for replanting, it should be attended to the first season. For this purpose some of the largest and best plants should be kept back in the trench with which to replace carefully any that may fail to start, say by the middle of June. In this case it will be necessary to cut or pinch off most of the new growth and reset when the weather is damp and the ground is moist. Should a dry season ensue, and these replants fail to grow, their places must be filled the next spring with strong vigorous plants, as it will be useless to replant after that time. If you succeed in starting a full and vigorous row, there is little fear that you will fail in your endeavor to make a live fence.

CULTIVATION OF THE HEDGE ROW.

The management of the cultivation is extremely simple and needs little explanation. It requires only the same attention as a nursery row, and but little more than a well worked row of corn or potatoes. Our method is to use the cultivator or the No. 5 plow, as soon as the grass and weeds appear, first throwing the dirt lightly to the row, and next

time from it, for a few times the first half of the season, and using the hoe to clean out between the plants when necessary. If the plowing is nicely done, but little hoeing will be required. The second and third year the ground should be stirred early, but at no time later in the growing season than midsummer; but late in autumn of the first and second year the row should be ridged or earthed up as high as practicable, to protect the roots from the severity of the winter, and in low or damp ground the plants must be mulched before hilling up. At the final plowing the third summer, some three or four furrows should be thrown from each side to the hedge row, forming a slight ridge about it, then run the harrow over it till it is a smooth and regular grade, never to be afterwards disturbed by the plow.

The clipping and shaping of the hedge will next claim our attention.



Since the publication of the first edition of our little booklet we have been induced to change our opinion in regard to the time and frequency of the clipping operation. The first object of clipping is to thicken the base, and the natural inference was that this must be begun at the early age of one year, and kept up without intermission till the object was attained. Subsequent experience has convinced us that we have clipped too early and too much; that though the plant will bear any amount of cutting and still live, yet the severe torture, (applied before it has acquired strong roots,) weakens and retards the growth, and sets it back too much. Though by early cutting the base will be thickened with small side branches, yet it is found that they are not of a permanent character. It is found to be the true theory to thicken the row at first by close planting, and to cultivate well for two seasons before cutting at all, to get as strong roots as possible without reference to the shape of the top. Then at the proper time the second spring after planting, just before the buds put forth, clear away the ridge of dirt down level with the ground, and with a strong shrub scythe cut all off smooth to the surface. Be sure to cut below all the buds on the stem, and if into the yellow root, no matter. The effect will be to send up numerous forced shoots all around the stump, which being of equal size and vigor will be equally durable. These numerous shoots, spreading in all direc-

tions, will completely fill the row with substantial material; whereas, if in the first cutting one or more buds are left, these buds put forth shoots stronger than those of the forced growth, and the latter will finally dwindle and perish, and the bottom instead of thickening will grow thinner, and the object sought in cutting will fail. It is quite as necessary to lay the right kind of a foundation for a hedge as for a house; without this, the one will be as likely to succeed as the other.



If the growth is vigorous and rapid the hedge should be cut the second time, about the last of June, (not later,) from four to six inches above the ground.

In the following spring it may be cut higher or lower according to its thickness, say from eighteen inches to two feet high. In the latter part of June of the same year it may be clipped in its final form, which should be pyramidal, shortening the side branches somewhat, but leaving a wide base and tapering to the top. If well grown, at the end of the fourth season the hedge will be thick and strong enough to turn out, when, in its security and effectiveness, it will yield the farmer a revenue of delight, and amply repay him for all his labor and pains in its construction. It may be well here to give a few of the reasons why the pyramidal form of the hedge is preferred.

FIRST.—The general direction of vegetation is well known to be upward.

SECOND.—One of the principal requisites of a hedge is a thick base, a condition which depends entirely upon the number, strength and vitality of the side branches near the ground.

THIRD.—It is plain that if the hedge is allowed to follow its natural tendency and force numerous strong and gross shoots at the top, the result will be a shaded, starved and sickly growth at the bottom, consequently the lower branches will perish and fall off, and the hedge will grow thin. But, if on the other hand we cut the top more and the bottom less we shall be more likely to pro-

mote an equilibrium of vigor in all the parts. The theory then is to trim with a *wide base* and bring the top of the hedge to a point. The dimension of the finished hedge should be four feet wide at the base and five feet high.

ANNUAL PRUNING, AFTER TREATMENT, &c.

After the hedge is completed, the only requirement to restore its beauty, increase its thickness, and enhance its durability, is an annual shearing of its superfluous growth. If this is done by hand perhaps it would be easier and better done twice a year, until its vigorous growth can be checked by artificial means—say late in the fall, or early in the spring, and in June. A convenient implement for the purpose is the “*slasher*,” the blade of which is made of well tempered steel, about two feet long; the outer end is curved, somewhat like a sickle, the lower end terminates in a socket, into which a light pole is fitted, for a handle. The blade may be an inch and a half wide, and three-eighths of an inch thick on the back. With the “*slasher*” kept perfectly sharp, it is comparatively an easy job to trim a hedge, as it is done with an oblique, upward stroke, one side at a time. For the benefit of those who have a large amount of hedges to shear, we take pleasure in informing them that a complete horse power machine for the purpose has been invented and patented by Mr. Samuel Bradbury, of Griggsville, Pike county, Illinois. On exhibition at the fairs, last fall, its capability for doing the business with certainty and dispatch was satisfactorily demonstrated. As the hedges grow older they will grow slower, and, consequently, require less clipping. After they have become sufficiently strong the exuberant growth may be safely checked by running a sharp cutter, or coulter, a foot deep, on each side, as close as a horse can walk. By thus cutting or pruning the side roots, the hedge may be dwarfed, without injury, and the task of shearing much lightened. This may be done in August, and only once in about three or four years. A complete hedge should present the appearance of a green wall when in leaf, from the ground to the peak.

As its principal use is to turn all domestic animals, it should be strong enough for that purpose, independent of its armature of thorns, and it should be so dense and thick as to render it difficult to see through it when the leaves are on. It also subserves an important purpose in breaking the force of the bleak, prairie winds in winter, and some extensive stock raisers are growing hedges without cropping at all, for the double purpose of a fence and a wind-break. In hedging a stock-farm we would recommend that the plants be set so close as to need no cropping. A good hedge is also a complete barrier against the blowing of seeds and grasses

from one field or farm to another, at all seasons. Though we claim no merit for the *Maclura* on the score of ornamental hedging, on account of the coarseness of its growth, yet a man of taste will make a beautiful thing of it, and thereby improve his own taste, and promote the love of order, neatness and method in all his operations, and as a consequence it will strengthen his love of home; hence the importance of keeping it in proper order.

TREATMENT OF OLD, IMPERFECT HEDGE ROWS.

Many of these ragged and neglected specimens which, in their present condition, promise nothing but a nuisance, may yet be reclaimed (if not too badly missing) by judicious management. Lose no time, but cut them down in early spring even with the surface, except a sufficient number at one end to fill the vacancies in the balance of the row; cut these at the height of two feet, clear the row of grass, sods, &c., and set in the replants with great care and with good roots; cultivate thoroughly, clip as before directed, except the replants, which must not be disturbed under two years after setting. Strong hedges that have been set too wide may be successfully thickened by “*plashing*.” This is done by cutting the plants two-thirds off, near the ground, bending down at an angle of about 45°, and interweaving them around stakes set in the row for that purpose, at about three feet apart. The side branches should be trimmed off before plashing.

SUGGESTIONS AND PRECAUTIONS.

We would suggest that after the hedge is completed the border on each side should be thickly seeded down to white clover, a complete sward of which will prevent its washing, keep out the weeds, and somewhat check the vigor without growing up to interfere with the body of the hedge, while, at the same time, it will give it a beautiful lawn-like appearance.

A hedge should never be planted under the shade of trees or too near a fence, as in such situations it will never do any good. It is also useless to set hedges on low, wet or spouty soils, without first throwing up a ridge some eight or ten feet wide, and high enough to keep the roots out of the water, otherwise the plants will be invariably heaved out by the frost the first and second winter. In such situations it is also very necessary to mulch the young hedge row with rotted straw, hay or litter before winter sets in. Indeed, we cannot too strongly recommend mulching for all young hedge rows. No stock must be allowed to have access to the hedge row, especially in the growing season, till it is two or three years old, after which, but little damage need be apprehended from their depredations. Gophers, where they abound are sometimes quite troublesome; with their sharp teeth they will cut off the roots of the hedge plants, as well as orchard trees and shrubbery at almost any age. As the gopher is the only thing that preys upon the hedge to any extent, he should, by all means, be exterminated, and every farmer may do this without much trouble, if he will set himself about it rightly. He is easily taken by set-

ting a small steel trap in his underground track, a little below the bottom of it and alightly covering it; or he may be readily poisoned by inserting a little strychnine into a small potato and dropping it into his track, near the last hill he has cast up. He will be very apt to find it, and as sure to eat it, and very soon “*cast up his final account*.”

GENERAL REMARKS.

It is now sixteen years since we commenced the enterprise of live fencing on the prairies, during which time we have labored constantly and assiduously in the cause. As we anticipated, the obstacles, the difficulties and the discouragements to be met and overcome have been neither few nor slight. Indeed, such have been their nature and extent that but for our firm conviction of its final and triumphant success we should have abandoned the enterprise in despair.

To particularize a few of the leading drawbacks to its uniform success, we may mention—

1st—the general lack of experience and judgment in the outset. 2d—the disheartening effect of a series of untoward seasons, and 3d—the prevailing disposition of western farmers to neglect such important interests as their hedges, orchards and gardens. Interests that demand, imperatively, a certain amount of care and attention, upon which condition they promise the most ample reward, but without it nothing save disappointment.

This last, alone, has proven a more fruitful source of failure than all other causes put together. But in the first stages of the enterprise such results were to be expected, and probably a greater proportion have succeeded than we could have reasonably hoped for. Enough good hedges are already made to confirm us in the faith that this mode of fencing is destined to prevail in all our vast prairie regions; that by its agency, boundless wastes will ere long be brought into successful cultivation, and finally that it will add untold millions to the wealth of the great northwest.

Impressed with these convictions we know of nothing we would rather do than to shed light on this important subject, to give it a proper direction, and to incite an ambition in every one who is so fortunate as to possess a prairie farm to obtain the right kind of information, to go at it understandingly and resolutely, to do all things right and well, and we will guarantee a satisfactory result.

SWEET POTATO PIE.—Boil the potatoes very soft, then peel and mash them. To every quarter of a pound, put one quart of milk, three tablespoonfuls of butter, four beaten eggs, together with sugar and netmeg to the taste. It is improved by a glass of wine.

INDIAN MEAL PUFFS.—Into one quart of boiling milk, stir eight tablespoonfuls of meal, and four spoonfuls of sugar. Boil five minutes, stirring constantly. When cool, add six well-beaten eggs. Bake in buttered cups half an hour. Try them with a little butter and maple molasses, and see if they are not good.

Shiftless Tricks.

To let the cattle fodder themselves at the stacks; they pull out and trample more than they eat. They eat till the edge of appetite is gone, and then daintily pick the choice parts; the residue, being coarse and refuse, they will not afterwards touch.

To sell half a stack of hay and leave the lower half open to rain and snow. In feeding out, a hay knife should be used on the stack; in selling, either dispose of the whole, or remove that which is left to a shed or barn.

It is a shiftless trick to lie about stores and groceries, arguing with men that you have no time, in a new country, for nice farming—for making good fences; for smooth meadows without a stump; for draining wet patches which disfigure fine fields.

To raise your own frogs in your own yard; to permit, year after year, a dirty, stinking, mantled puddle to stand before your fence in the street.

To plant orchards, and allow your cattle to eat the trees up. When gnawed down, to save your money, by trying to nurse the stubs into good trees, instead of getting fresh ones from the nursery.

To allow an orchard to have blank spaces, where trees have died, and when the living trees begin to bear, to wake up and put young whips in the vacant spots.

It is very shiftless to build your barnyard so that every rain will drain it; to build your privy and dig your well close together; to build a privy of more than seven feet square—some shiftless folks have it of the size of the whole yard; to set it in the most exposed spot on the premises; to set it at the very far end of the garden, for the pleasure of traversing mud-puddles and labyrinths of wet weeds in rainy days.

It is a dirty trick to make bread without washing one's hands after cleaning fish or chickens; to use an apron for a handkerchief; to use a veteran handkerchief just from the wars for an apron; to use milk-pans alternately for wash-bowls and milk. To wash dishes and baby linen in the same tub, either alternately or altogether; to chew snuff while you are cooking, for sometimes food will chance to be too highly spiced. We have a distinct but unutterable remembrance of a cud of tobacco in a dish of hashed pork—but it was before we were married!

A lady of our acquaintance, at a boarding house, excited some fears among her friends, by foaming at the mouth of madness. In eating a hash (made, doubtless, of every scrap from the table, not consumed the day before,) she found herself blessed with a mouthful of hard

soap, which only lathered the more, the more she washed at it.

It is filthy thing to comb one's hair in a small kitchen in the intervals of cooking the breakfast; to use the bread trough for a cradle—a thing which we have undoubtedly seen; to put trunks, boxes, baskets, with sundry other utensils, under the bed where you keep the cake for company; we have seen a dexterous housewife whip the bed-spread aside, and bring forth not what we feared, but a loaf-cake!

It is a dirty trick to wash children's eyes in the pudding dish; not that the sore eyes, but subsequent puddings, will not be benefitted; to wipe dishes and spoons on a hand towel; to wrap warm bread in a dirty table-cloth; to make and mould bread on a table innocent of washing for weeks; to use dirty table-cloths for sheets, a practice of which we have had experimental knowledge, once at least in our lives.

The standing plea of all slatterns and slovens is, that "everybody must eat a peck of dirt before they die." A peck? that would be a mercy, a mere mouthful, in comparison of the cooked cart-loads of dirt which are to be eaten in steam-boats, canal-boats, taverns, mansions, huts and hovels.

It is a filthy trick to use tobacco at all; and it puts an end to all our affected squeamishness at the Chinese taste, in eating rats, cats, and bird's nests. It is a filthy trick to let the exquisite juice of tobacco trickle down the corners of one's mouth; or lie in splashes on one's coat, or bosom; to squirt the juice all over a clean floor, or upon a carpet, or baptismally to sprinkle a proud pair of andirons, the refulgent glory of the much-scouring housewife. It is a vile economy to lay up for remastication a half-chewed cud; to pocket a half-smoked cigar; and finally to bedrench one's self with tobacco juice, or so be-smoke one's clothes that a man can be scented as far off as a whale-ship can be smelt at sea.

It is a shiftless trick to snuff a candle with your fingers, or your wife's best scissors, to throw the snuff on the carpet or on the polished floor, and then to extinguish it by treading on it!

To borrow a choice book; to read it with unwashed hands, that have been used in the charcoal bin, and finally to return it daubed on every leaf with nose-blood spots, tobacco spatter, and dirty finger-marks—this is a vile trick!

It is not altogether cleanly to use one's knife to scrape boots, to cut harness, to skin cats, to cut tobacco, and then to pare apples which other people are to eat.

It is an unthrifty trick to bring in eggs from the barn in one's coat pocket, and then to sit down on them.

It is a filthy trick to borrow of, or

lend for others' use, a tooth-brush, or a tooth-pick; to pick one's teeth at table with a fork, or a jack-knife; to put your hat upon the dinner table among the dishes; to spit generously into the fire, or at it, while the hearth is covered with food set to warm; for sometimes a man hits what he don't aim at.

It is an unmannerly trick to neglect the scraper outside the door, but to be scrupulous in cleaning your feet after you get inside, on the carpet, rug, or andirons; to bring your drenched umbrella into the entry, where a black puddle may leave to the housewife melancholy evidence that you have been there.

It is soul-trying for a neat dairy-woman to see her "man" watering the horse out of her milk-bucket; or filtering horse-medicine through her milk-strainer; or feeding his hogs with her water-pail; or, after barnwork, to set the well-bucket outside the curb and wash his hands out of it.—H. W. Beecher.

Fall Plowing.

Two active workmen (we but repeat the saying) may be secured by any farmer for the winter at comparatively small expense. Fermentation and frost, if his fields are plowed in autumn, will be busy with their culture through the inclement months, preparing food for plants and fitting the soil for their growth. Decomposition and disintegration are more or less active from fall to spring, and most soils, if properly plowed in autumn, are benefitted by the agents thus set at work. Let us offer some thoughts on the advantages and disadvantages of autumn cultivation, together with some directions for performing the work.

1. Low lands, such as are usually most benefitted by fall plowing, are generally in their best condition for the operation at this season of the year. Very often they are too wet to plow in spring until the season for seeding is far advanced, and the product is lessened by the delay, as well as the soil injured by working when too wet—becoming baked and lumpy, and requiring several years' time to recover its usual state. Heavy clays, especially, must be plowed when just right as to moisture, or they may almost as well remain without tillage. Heavy loams are often in the best condition for plowing in the fall, and can be sown or planted more seasonably, and with better results, if this operation is performed than if neglected.

2. Teams are generally in better condition for plowing in autumn; more inured to labor, and in less pressing demand for other employment on the farm. In spring a variety of work presses upon the attention of the farmer, which must be done as rapidly as possible, and it is

well to "lighten the load" as far as may be by forethought and precaution.

3. Stiff, heavy soils, plowed in autumn, besides being in good condition for the work, undergo by the action of water and frost, a more thorough disintegration—clays, with proper provision for surface drainage, are pulverized and crumbled; heavy loams and hardpan lands are acted upon in like manner, and with like beneficial results to the soil and succeeding crop.

4. Heavy and coarse sward land is better mellowed and subdued when the inverted sod is exposed to the action of the winter weather. Turned over late in the season, all vegetation ceases, the grass roots are frozen out, and many weeds share the same fate, in spring we find the land bare and mellow, ready with a thorough harrowing for any appropriate crop. The surviving weeds are less likely to sprout than if turned under in spring, and the turf is better prepared by its more advanced state of decay, for feeding the products which follow.

5. Though late fall plowing may have little time for fermentation or the decomposition of the vegetable matter buried by the plow; this decay still goes on to some extent, and by the time the growing crop needs it, usually arrives at the proper stage to supply its necessities. But the frost works with a will, and under proper conditions produces a mechanical amelioration of the soil scarcely possible under any other process.

6. Fall plowing disturb the quarters arranged by various insects for passing the winter in the soil, thus destroying large numbers of these pests with their eggs and laræ. This is a minor advantage, but one worthy of consideration, especially on lands infested with the laræ of the May-bug or the wire worm.

The principal objections to fall plowing are the following:

1. The loss of that fresh, friable condition of soil, readily permeable to air and moisture, and the consolidation of the soil by long exposure to changing and stormy weather. This on light lands is a serious objection to autumn plowing. The same is true of any soil not provided with sufficient drainage to prevent water from standing for any time on or near the surface.

2. Another disadvantage is the loss of vegetable matter, and of its gases while decaying. The latter is but a small loss if the plowing is done late in the fall, but often on hill-sides, a large part of the soluble and floating organic matter is washed away by the heavy rains of winter and early spring-time. The soil is also consolidated by the same influences. Heavy swards thus

situated would sustain less injury than light swards or stubble lands.

And lastly, a few hints on the manner of performing the work:

1. Do it thoroughly and in a workmanlike manner.

2. If the soil is at all liable to standing water in the winter, it should be plowed in narrow lands, and the water-furrows carefully cleared and free outlets provided, so that all surface moisture may at once drain away. Unless this is attended to, it is of little use to plow low lands in the fall. If covered with water until spring, the frost has no mellowing effect, and very little decomposition takes place—the soil is only hardened by its exposure.

3. In fall plowing, the furrows should be deep and narrow, so as to expose as much surface as possible to the action of the frost, and it matters little how rough the work may be, provided the whole surface be inverted by the plow.

In conclusion, we would again urge the importance of preparing before winter sets in, as far as may be, for another year. We hear the complaint very frequently that the late seeding has injured one or more of our spring crops, and that the most successful growth has been made upon lands plowed in the fall. Spring plowed land can also be given more attention, with the lessened demand upon the team and time, and all branches of farming feel the influence of the workmen who so cheaply and faithfully assist in forwarding the labors of the farm.

FOWLS—Food, &c.

When fowls are confined to a narrow space they require much care and attention to supply them with all kinds of food which they collect when running at large; and without care to supply their wants, they will not be profitable. When running at large, as they please, they devour many insects, eat gravel, lime and various kinds of herbage, seeds of various kinds, and many other things which we cannot discriminate, though we look on while they select their food.

In winter, when fowls have less access to the ground, or when they are confined in small enclosures, they have less opportunity to select the mineral substances which they require. Hence an artificial supply becomes necessary. How shall this be given? By placing the articles within their reach, so that they may take voluntarily just the quantity to which they are prompted by nature. Place old lime-mortar, bones, oyster or clam shells, broken fine, where the fowls can readily pick them up. It has been ascertained that if you mix with their food a sufficient quantity of egg shells, broken bones,

oyster shells, and effete lime, which they eat greedily when so mixed, they will lay twice or thrice as many eggs as before. A well fed fowl is disposed to lay a vast number of eggs, but cannot do so without the materials for the shells, however nourishing in other respects her food may be; indeed, a fowl fed on food and water, free from carbonate of lime, and not finding any in the soil, or in the shape of mortar, which they often eat on the walls, would lay no eggs at all, with the best will in the world.

A letter was read a few years ago before the British Association, from M. Sace, of Neufchâtel, Switzerland, on account of some experiments in the feeding of fowls. He states, first, that fowls to which a portion of chalk is given with their food, lay eggs the shells of which are remarkable for their porcelain whiteness. By substituting for chalk a calcareous earth, rich in oxide of iron, the shells become of an orange red color. Secondly, he informs us that some hens fed upon barley alone would not lay well, and they will tear off each other's feathers. He then mixed with the barley some feathers chopped, which they eat eagerly and digested freely. By adding milk to their food they began to lay, and ceased plucking out each other's feathers. He concludes that this proceeding arose from the desire of the hens for azote food.

An idea prevails with many, that any sort of grain, even if a little damaged, will do for poultry, but this is a grand mistake. A friend of the writer once came very near losing his whole flock of valuable fowls from feeding them with damaged corn, which has been heated. Those who feed largely know better, and invariably make it a rule to feed none but the best.

Eggs, if at any time are a luxury, it is in winter, and whatever promotes their production is of interest to the majority of our readers.—*C. N. Bement, Springside.*

HOT CROSS BUNS.—Rub four ounces of butter into two pounds of flour, four ounces of sugar, and one ounce and a half of spice, consisting of ground allspice, cinnamon and mace, mixed together; put a spoonful or two of cream into a cup of yeast, add as much milk as will make the above into a light paste, and set it by the fire to rise. They will bake quick on tins. When half done press the form of a cross with a tin mould in the center.

HEAVES IN HORSES.—It is said in a recent number of an agricultural paper, that a quart of a decoction of smart-weed, given every day to a heavy horse will cure him. We doubt it, but there can be no harm in trying it.

The Illinois Farmer.

SPRINGFIELD, DECEMBER 1, 1859.

The last Farmer of the Year.

We are now arranging matter for the last number of the ILLINOIS FARMER for 1859. Four years have we prepared the matter for this paper. We have aimed to be of service to the farmers of Illinois. How we have succeeded is best known to our readers.

The present year has been one of great trials to our agricultural brethren. On its commencement there were bright hopes that it would be a year of good crops and of good prices, that would enable them to pay their just debts, and provide means for their future comfort, so that they might go on their way rejoicing. But the seasons have not justified our hopes. Our grain crops are short; there is not one-third of the crop anticipated, and the price of wheat is lower than its cost. In the northern parts of the State, corn has turned out poorly, while in others it is a two-thirds crop. Oats are light. Potatoes in the north are poor; in the south and centre, good. Grass has given a fair yield in the centre of the State. Take all crops together, the crop season has been a bad one.

But we should not despair. Good cultivation would have made good crops in most cases where there have been failures. In wet seasons, corn, wheat, or other grain, will not grow in water or in soil filled with water—mud, we mean. It is the business of the farmer to prepare his land so that it shall at all times be in a condition to grow his crops. He must ditch and underdrain as his ability and ground requires. It is not difficult to ascertain what grounds require ditching. The farmers' good sense can discover what ditching is required by the cast of his eye—if *he will cast his eye* for that purpose. Last year we saw fields sown with wheat where the ground was saturated with water for months. The wheat dead. We see now the same grounds in wheat, and no attempt has been made by plowing furrows or otherwise to run off the water. It is said "a burnt child dreads the fire." In this case, a burnt man runs into the fire!

We believe that the great want of success in making crops in this State, is

attributable to the neglect of draining our lands. A farmer can, if he chooses and has an ordinary farm, raise crops all the time. We venture to say that in this county of Sangamon there have been raised the past season, tolerable crops of wheat and good crops of corn, where, with the ordinary culture, the ground would have yielded neither. Therefore it is not saying too much to affirm, that with proper cultivation of the land, and by ditching and draining, we can always make fair crops.

We have some other suggestions to make. Let the coming year be marked by industry and economy. Let the small farmers see to it that they have plenty of stock hogs the coming winter and take care of them, so as to make fine pork hogs the coming fall. Hogs always pay fair prices, and what should hinder small farmers, or farmers cultivating their hundred and sixty acres of land, from having next fall one hundred fat hogs for sale? Can't they do it? Has it not always been a better business than raising wheat? The hog crop is quickly turned—in fact, when your hogs are fat, you can sell them at any season of the year, and always, be it summer, or spring, or early in the fall, at high prices. We venture to say to small farmers, who desire to turn their stock into cash once a year, that there is no stock for this purpose equal to hogs.

There should be a new system of household economy inaugurated. We should look back to what farmers and farmers' families did in this and other counties of Illinois, fifteen years ago. Then our farmers' wives and daughters never were more proud that when they came to market with their butter, and cheese and lard and chickens, flannels, jeans, linseys and socks and stockings. In this county, butter was a great article of export, and the farmers' wives paid for their store goods in the articles produced in their families. The girls and matrons were as lovely then in their calicoes and lawns as they are in their silks and satins now. The men were as respectable in their jeans as they are now in their broadcloths—many of which are not yet paid for. Families were as healthy then when their drink at their meals was milk and water, as they are now when they

guzzle down strong coffee three times a day. In these past times, it was their pride and interest to live off of the product of their farms, and we have often sat at a well furnished table when we were told that all we saw before us was raised upon the farm except the pepper and salt! The habit our farmers have got into, of living upon articles brought from provision stores, would break down, with present prices and present crops, the best farmers in the world.

It is a good time for thinking now on these things. Why should not farmers in the neighborhoods get together these long evenings and talk over the subjects to which we have referred, and others of deep interest connected with their welfare? We sometimes talk very plainly, and it may seem to some abruptly, but we really wish to do the public good service. By pointing out evils, others may avoid them. By suggesting new measures of improvement and economy, some may be benefitted. We do not pretend to say that farmers have been more improvident than others,—because we are sure that many in our cities who are gorgeously attired, and who seem to say by their efforts to appear in expensive and fashionable dress, "LOOK AT ME," like the snail, carry almost every thing they possess upon their backs!

But we must close. The next FARMER will begin a new year. We want to send our FARMER to all our old and to many new subscribers. Will our old subscribers assist us? Will they get us new lists? Will they lay us under further obligations to them? Will they spend a little time in our behalf? Every agricultural sheet issued in this State, will do good. Our farmers, to keep up with the times, must make progress, and thus they cannot do without the agricultural paper. Then, we ask everybody to give us a lift!

December.

Then came the autumn, all in yellow clad,
As though he joyed in plenteous store,
Laden with fruits that made him laugh, full glad
That he had banished hunger, which to-fore
Had by the belly oft him pinched sore;
Upon his head a wreath that was our led
With ears of corn of every sort, he bore,
And in his hand a sickle he did hold,
To reap the ripened fruit the which the earth had yold.
Spencer's Fairy Queen.

It is for autumn, that the winter frost has crumbled down the soil, and disintegrated the rocks; it is for autumn that the vernal showers moistened the glebe and called the sleeping plants from their hybernation. It was to fill the December barns with grain and forage, and the cellars with vegetables and fruits, that the summer sun glowed with its ardent heat—it was for this that the sun-

browned brow of the farmer was moistened by the sweat of labor, that when winter called for the summer stores, that December could give response, and show in her keeping the necessities and luxuries that should make winter one of the pleasant seasons of the year.

The planting is over, the cultivator and the hoe are resting in masterly inactivity, the grain and vegetables are harvested and naught but the tassellated corn waves its banner to the autumn wind, and reflects back the faint glare of the December sun from the golden ears. The plow is still busy turning under the russet remnants of the summer's growth, and preparing for the new year that will soon be ushered in, when the frost king will assert his sway and march down our prairie glades and through the leafless forests, bridging the streams with chrysal ice—crumbling down yonder ledge, solidifying the clays and preparing them to yield their elements of fertility. How much of the labors of the year is garnered up in December? How much of the future will depend upon its integrity, how much of squalid want will it relieve, and how many peons of praise will go up for him who has paid tribute to this month and bent down at its shrine? December, the richest month of the year, crowned with glories of the ripened harvest, the great steward of winter, of which Cowper has well said—

"I crown thee King of intimate delights
Fireside enjoyments, home born happiness
And all the comforts of the lowly roof
Of undisturbed retirement, and the hours
Of long uninterrupted evening knows"

The busy season is over, the long social evenings are at hand—the prairie fires are lapping up the russett setting of the landscape and exposing its charred surface to the rude blast of the north. The winds of winter may rave and roar, the snow and sleet may pour down in eddying drifts, but the farmer's fireside should present a picture of contentment and be all aglow with happiness; but if his stock is browsing on the frosted corn, or seeking a precarious living among the russett leaves that autumn has left in her whirling eddies, his peace of mind will be of short duration, and the bleak winds of winter should remind him that December is no longer his steward; that he has neglected to provide the stores against the winter's want, and must suffer the penalty that follow

close after the shiftless farmer. December too has the holydays in her keeping, when the farmer should have everything in order, that he and his family should have its uninterrupted enjoyment. And last, though not least, December is the time to make up clubs for, and to renew the subscription to the *Illinois Farmer*, so that you can profit by its useful teachings. **RURAL.**

FALL PLOWING.

Fall plowing in this and the south part of the State, has been too much neglected, and it is high time that our farmers give this subject their attention. For corn we believe fall plowing is seldom resorted to. Let us take the farm of John Do-well, and see how he manages to produce such large crops, and obtain such large dividends from that little patch of a farm of his. Eighty acres, just the one eighth of a section. In the first place the road takes off one acre, the building grounds and yard two acres, the garden three acres, the orchard four acres. Twenty acres are fenced off for meadow, twenty acres for pasture, twenty for corn and potatoes, and ten for wheat. We will see what he is now doing with the several fields.

The five acres of potato ground has been trench plowed a foot deep, and will be sowed to spring wheat, five acres of the adjoining corn field has been husked on the hill, and the stalks are being turned to the bottom of the trench furrow a foot deep. On this he will also sow spring wheat, making up his ten acres. On this deep plowing he can sow very early, say first of March, and on account of the thorough draining the crop will grow rapidly and be out of the way, of chinch bug, and run little risk of rust; twenty to thirty-five bushels to the acre is what our friend John averages annually. John has plowed the wheat stubble; but here he has pursued a different plan by just covering up the stubble say three inches deep. John says that by plowing eight inches in the spring he will have this rotten stubble and all the seed of weeds buried out of the way; he will then plant it with corn and roll it. He intends to plant five acres of potatoes, and for this purpose he is trench plowing and turning under the corn stalks the same as for wheat; the remainder of the corn is cut up and

put in shock. This he will not have time to haul off until it freezes up and then it will be too late for plowing; but as it is clean of weeds he has no particular regret, as he intends to plant it to corn. His orchard is still young and he crops it with corn. The ground was plowed a foot deep before planting it out, and hence the roots run deep and out of the way of the plow. He plows this in the fall about eight inches deep, spreads on manure during the winter and plows it in shallow in the spring and plants it to corn. His trees have made a rapid growth, and now produce quite a crop of fruit. Most of his success and especially his large crops are due to fall plowing. John's system of rotation is also interesting, but we must attend to that when we have more leisure. **RURAL.**

The Double Michigan Plow as a Prairie Breaker.

The last of February and first of March we broke up seven acres of prairie with one of these plows. The small plow was run one inch deep, turning the soil over like a scroll, upon which the lower plow turned two inches of the turf and soil; this after a few days would fall to pieces, as the roots of course were dead. We have never seen June breaking in so fine order as this spring breaking. We broke up about the middle of June three acres with a common breaking plow, and it will require a dollars worth of extra team work to put this in as good order as the spring breaking. Should we have heavy rain so as to make the turf soft and yielding, we shall break up more in this way this month, and at any time during the winter when the frost is out enough to break, we shall put our idle teams to work. We have done with summer breaking, and hereafter the Double Michigan Plow is our breaker until something better shall turn up.

To the new settler, and those having prairie to break, we commend this new use of this plow, which as a deep tiller has made little progress, but as a breaker is of no small value. Late in the fall and early in the spring, when no other plowing can be done, this plow can be run at a great advantage. Three horses will break one and a half to two acres per day, thus making a great saving, at the same time the land is in better condition. This breaking can be harrowed the first of May and planted and cultivated like old land. Some of the most eminent agriculturists of this and other States have examined the breaking on our farm, and pronounce it a complete success. We hope others will give it a trial this month, or early in the spring. **RURAL.**

Orchard and Garden.

WORK IN THE ORCHARD.

Trees planted in autumn in well prepared soil will make a third more growth than if planted in spring. The reason of this, is, that the ends of the roots cut with the spade or broken, heal over and prevent loss of sap, which occurs in spring, the ground becomes settled around them, and from the first swelling of the bud they go forward without interruption. All trees planted in the fall should be banked up at the time, with earth to hold them to their place, so as not to be thrown out with the frost or swayed over with the wind while the ground is saturated with a heavy rain. In the second place the heads should be thinned out (not cut back,) and not allow the tree to grow too bushy on the start. We have decided aversion to spring pruning, for several reasons, which can be summed up as follows: A loss of sap, which runs down and discolors the bark, the cut branch decays and does not heal over dry and sound. If we must prune in spring, we like to use grafting wax or white lead in oil to cover the wounded part.

See that no grass or weeds are allowed about the trunks of your trees, if you do not like to have them gridled by mice. Mice never injure a tree standing on a clean cultivated surface. Pieces of corn stalks, boards or old newspapers should be tied about trees liable to the attacks of rabbits. The fall plowing of orchards is of great value in the killing of insects, the driving out of mice, nor will rabbits be so liable to visit the trees when there is no hiding places for them.

White-washing trees in the fall has a most beneficial effect to ward off the sun's rays when the tree has lost its foliage, and to ameliorate the sudden changes of winter. This wash will have bleached out by spring, when a clean green bark will be the result. In short, the planting and pruning of the orchard should be attended to at this season, and not left over among the thousand duties that spring, every busy spring brings in her train. Plum trees that have lost their fruit by that arrant marauder the Curculio, should be re-

moved to the chicken yard, that neutral ground between the house and barn. Cherry trees, by all means, should be planted at this season. The May Cherry and English Morello, are the two most reliable varieties for general purposes. We always set trees as late as the weather will permit, and in many cases have broken up a thick crust of frost for the purpose of planting, and have uniformly been successful.

THE GARDEN.

It is time to save the cabbage and turnips. If you have not laid out your garden, now is the time. You will need two or three acres, this should be protected from March winds, a couple of rows of peach trees around the outside will do this and furnish you fruit besides. You may think this a large garden, but you should recollect that the garden is to be the most profitable part of the farm. In it, you want beds of strawberries, rows of currants, gooseberries, blackberries, raspberries, rhubarb and asparagus. You must have space for the vegetables usually planted in beds, and then space for the vines, and considerable space for early potatoes, early corn, early beans and early cabbage. All these and more you want, and if you want them cheaply and certainly, you must lose no time in laying off the ground; trench plow it a foot deep, so that the autumn rain can bury the ammonia into the soil, and that the winter frost will prepare it for spring planting. Set out the peach trees at once, so that you will have time to plant garden seeds in spring. Put your strawberry beds and rows of small fruits across one end, so that they can all be worked with a horse. This will save you a large amount of labor. Before spring we will show you how to plant and cultivate your vegetables with less than half the usual labor. In the winter a liberal supply of well rotted manure should be hauled on the garden to be plowed under before planting.

THE YARD.

Do not neglect to set out shade and fruit trees in the yard, you will have no time in the spring to do it, besides it is better done now, if you did not attend to it last month. Away up north it is too late for this work in

ordinary seasons, but here in Central and Southern Illinois, we have the open ground, with comparatively little work to do. If you do not wish to go to the nursery after shade trees, you will find elm, linn, soft maple, buttonwood, buckeye, ash and some of the oaks, valuable trees for this purpose. Among these should be set cherries, pears, Siberian crab apples, babary, snowballs, honeysuckles, syringas, mountain ash, evergreens, etc., that your house grounds will have a cheerful look, not only in summer, but in winter also. It is these living, moving, whispering monuments that draw the family circle in closer bonds of affection, and when the homestead is left far behind, the thoughts of these will send memory back to the distant loved ones.

RURAL.

The Year 1859.

The year about to close has been one of deep interest to all. The HARD TIMES had full possession at its advent and has held on with a pretty strong grip. The expectation that the year's crops would improve the condition of things, has to some extent been realized. Early in the spring the winter wheat crop gave poor promise, but on the whole it is as good as the spring stand could well warrant. Farmers who sow chess or sow on land already filled with this pernicious weed have no reason to complain. When the stand of wheat is good and the growth thrifty, chess makes no impression, but when the stand is thin from any cause, the chess plants swell out to wonderful proportion.—For planting corn the season was rather wet, and what with poor seed, the rats and other vermin to prey upon the young plants, it was a difficult matter to obtain a good stand, but our farmers persevered nobly, and the result is a good average crop throughout the State. Some of the northern counties suffered by frost, but the great corn fields of central Illinois have made good the defect.

In the center and south part of the State the potato crop is unusually good, and the same may be said of the garden vegetables, though in some cases cabbage excepted. This increased attention to the garden is highly encouraging, and we shall hear less of bilious and other fevers in consequence. The fruit crop has been light. Our farmers and villagers should pay more attention to the small fruits, such as strawberries, currants, gooseberries, raspberries and blackberries; not forgetting those valuable plants, the rhubarb and asparagus. But little hemp, flax, castor beans, tobacco or close have

been sent to market. This is wrong as all of these staples can be grown at a good profit, and would find a ready market.

Our people have been economical in their expenditures, industrious, and have a fair surplus to send to market, and which bears a good price, and they cannot well help looking forward with strong hopes that with another favorable year they will again be on the high road to prosperity.

The land speculators must wait the last turn in the wheel of fortune, as the last act in the drama of hard times will come to them.

RURAL.

The New Editor of the Farmer.

Our readers will perceive by the accompanying prospectus (on a supplemental sheet,) that Hon. M. L. Dunlap has been engaged as the future editor of the FARMER, to supply the place left vacant by the departure of S. FRANCIS, Esq., for the distant shores of the Pacific.

Mr. Dunlap is better known to the reading public as the author of numberless articles signed "RURAL," which have appeared from time to time in the newspapers of Chicago. We are glad that we have been able to secure the services of a gentleman so competent to fill this important post; and we are sure our readers will be equally well pleased.

This number of the paper was made up in part by the retiring editor and in part by his successor. The January number will go to press about the 20th of December. We intend making some improvements during the coming year, and they will be governed in a great measure by the support that is extended to the paper. As heretofore, it will continue to be identified with the people, and entirely free from the dictation of clique or party. It is thus thrown upon the Farmers, for support, as their own advocate, and we doubt not they will give it a cordial welcome.

THE PUBLISHERS.

Springfield, Nov. 26, 1859.

Annual Meeting of the Illinois State Horticultural Society—Its Objects and who will attend.

The annual meeting of this society is to come off at Bloomington on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th of January next. It had been proposed to hold it earlier, but for sufficient reasons, it was deemed best to defer the gathering until that time.

The meeting is for the benefit of the fruit growers and gardeners of the State. The nurseryman as such will not be expected to figure largely in it. What the Society want to know is what trees to plant, where to plant them, how to plant them, how and when to prune them in the orchard, and

lastly what to do with the fruit to prepare it for the market. The garden and house grounds should also receive the attention of the meeting. Dr. Warder of Cincinnati, and other prominent horticulturalists are expected. Every orchardist should make it a point to be on hand; in fact no such persons can afford to be absent.

To the Farmers of Illinois.

We now ask your aid in the circulation of the ILLINOIS FARMER. With our new arrangements we shall be able to give you a home paper, invaluable in your vocation, edited by one of your number, who has long and ably wielded the pen in behalf of prairie farming. To the farmer, the orchardist and the gardener he will be of great service, from his practical knowledge of our soil, climate and productions. Will you help roll up a list of subscribers and of contributors, for we want both. Show the paper to your neighbor and ask him to subscribe.

We send this number to many who are not subscribers, all of whom we shall hope to add to our list.

Pratt's Ditcher.

This machine was on the ground with Fawks' steam plow, having been entered for the \$500 award offered by the Illinois Central Railroad Company for the best machine for open drains. It promises to be useful. We hope to be able to give a good account of it in our next issue.

Fawkes' Steam Plow.

At this writing, Nov. 25th, this plow is on our farm undergoing important alterations in the arrangement of the gang of plows. On Tuesday last the trial was commenced, but in consequence of the breaking of a wheel, it was partially suspended, half of the gang (4 plows) was taken off and two and a half acres of prairie sod turned over. The engine appears to have sufficient power to drive the whole gang, and steam can be kept up for almost any distance with good fuel. The real difficulty is now how to arrange the plows to good advantage, numerous attempts have been made to run plows in gangs, but thus far without much success. As generally arranged the friction is very great, as Fawkes is now turning his inventive energies to the solution of this important problem we may reasonably hope that the difficulties will be overcome. The trial will be resumed from day to day—weather permitting—until a thorough trial will be had. The plow will not be at Centralia and Bloomington as advertised, but should the weather prove favorable may get out, otherwise it will be housed where it is. Next month we shall present a full account of its doings.

RURAL.

Planting Bulbs.

The present is the proper season for planting out bulbs of hyacinths, tulips, narcissus, crocus and nearly all the hardy varieties of bulbous flower roots. The best soil for all such is a sandy loam, well drained and richly manured with well rotted cow dung; each bulb should be surrounded with about one inch of sand; this keeps the bulb from rotting. If the soil is not good, it is better to dig it out to the depth of a foot or more, and fill in with good soil. Leaf mold, if dry, is good; but it must be mixed with a fair proportion of sandy loam. In selecting bulbs, the clean bright skinned ones should be preferred. When spotted or molded, they are in a bad condition, and seldom do well. Hyacinths and tulip bulbs should be planted about eight inches apart, and four inches deep. A covering of leaves or manure should be spread over the bed for protection during winter, removing it in early spring. The bed should be kept clear of weeds, but great care must be taken that the young leaves and flower buds are not injured; for if this is the case, the blossoming will be sure to be inferior.

A good collection of these bulbs is often difficult to obtain; and our seed stores too often have no great variety.

From the Chicago Press and Tribune.

THE FAIRBANKS STANDARD SCALES.—

Both in the State Fair at Freeport, and at the National Fair in this city, the Fairbanks Standard Scales maintained their prestige won in over a quarter of a century of experience, and bore away all the prizes where they were competitors. Messrs. Fairbanks & Greenleaf, from their establishment in Burch's building, on the corner of Lake street and Wabash avenue, gave to their department at these Fairs an attraction which drew crowds of visitors, curious to look through the multiform list of weighing appliances, from railroad track scales to the letter balances, all the product of the celebrated St. Johnsbury Works and their branch New York manufactory. In all cases they won the blue ribbon and medals to match, and after tests, applied much more rigidly and intelligently than has become too common in these exhibitions.

There is one point in this which all manufacturers, of every grade, will do well to profit by. It is the wisdom of the Messrs. Fairbanks in "keeping up their standard." There has been with them no such thing as falling back on a reputation already made. Every scale must bear the identical accuracy of its predecessor, and not palm off seeming merits on the strength of credit previously gained. Manufacturers are too prone to lower their mark when success has given them the temptation to indolence and inattention. For this reason blue ribbons and first premiums following a success of twenty-five years, mean something more than an empty formality, to-wit: that the skill which won still guards a splendid reputation.

GREEN GAGE JAM.—Rub ripe green gages through a coarse hair sieve, put the pulp into a preserving-pan along with an equal weight of lump sugar, pounded and sifted. Boil the whole to a proper thickness and put it into pots.

About Corn.

Mr. Editor:—What becomes of the corn crop? According to the last census the corn crop of the United States, in the aggregate amounted to about 600,000,000 bushels annually. How and in what manner is such a vast amount of grain consumed profitably for the producer? Of the crop of 1850, about 4,500,000 bushels were exported, and more than 11,000,000 bushels were consumed in the manufacture of spirituous liquors. The balance were used at home, as food for man and beast. Since that time, the amount consumed in the manufacture of alcohol and highwines must have largely increased to keep pace with the growing demand for alcohol in the manufacture of burning fluid, &c. It is certainly a funny doctrine, promulgated by some individuals at the present day, that we should go on increasing our grain products, until we can afford, rather than get nothing for it, to compete with European labor and European crops and prices at their own doors.

Illinois farmers, you have doubtless learned ere this that machinery does not lessen the cost of the products of the soil—it only enables you to secure a larger amount thereof. Shall we, then, go on in the strife of competition in the European markets, against serf and plebian labor, until we and our children are sunk to their or a lower level; or shall we unite in asking and providing a home market?

We now import fifty bushel of corn for every one we export. A fact! Every ton of railroad or other iron, every yard of cloth, every pound of tea, comes charged not only with its half dozen profits as merchandise and transportation, but the food eaten by its producers,—they and their cattle—while producing it. What are the facts, then? Simply these—that this year, 1859, disguised as manufactured merchandise, the United States are actually importing food for her farmers, whose cribs are full, and labor to her mechanics who are idle. Let us, farmers, join Pennsylvania in asking a tariff to protect our manufactures, our products, our labor, or we shall be forced to compete with European labor in its worst forms—buying back the very corn we send them with two freights added.

The fact is becoming daily more apparent that we can much more than supply ourselves with food. Prices have always been low except when there has been a great European demand from war or scarcity, or when the emigration into the midst of producers has furnished temporary consumers enough to absorb the surplus, and furnish a market. But emigration of producers soon swells the stream of production instead of con-

sumption. We must find a market for surplus at home or abroad. We are not writing a political article, but we do think it high time the farmers opened their eyes to the fact that they, as producers, set the wheels of trade in motion by furnishing merchandise. Traders will never work this reform—they fatten at any price—the farmer must look to his own corn.—W. H. GARDNER, *Amboy, Ill., August 5th, 1859.*

From the American Stock Journal.

Raising Cattle on the Prairies.

The adaptation of the prairies to the production of stock cannot be questioned. And where the attention of the agriculturalists is devoted exclusively to this branch of husbandry, the range for summer pasturage and the gathering of winter supplies is unlimited. As we propose offering a few observations on this subject for the readers of the Stock Journal, it will be necessary first to examine the present condition of the stock-growing interest.

In connection with other farm management, the keeping of cattle is followed quite exclusively, but in few cases with any system calculated to improve the character of the stock. The early settlers were poor, coming from different States, each with a cow, or two, of such excellence as they chanced to possess; and this laid the foundation of the breed which now predominates. These cows were bred to such males as chanced to be running at large on the prairie, consequently the owner had no hand in the improvement of his stock—it being trusted to luck and a favorable climate.

This course, at first the only one, from necessity, has been since followed from habit, until it is a rare circumstance for the farmer to be able to point to the bull to which his cows are bred. The result may be imagined—a regular course of amalgamation and deterioration has been going on—the New England red, with the long horned animals of the South, and the offspring of these with the muley, or perchance an animal with a sprinkling of Durham or Devon.

Efforts have been made, with partial success in some localities, to confine the males at home, which would enable those who wished to improve their stock. Under these circumstances, however favorable our climate, and improving improved animals, it will be seen at once that we can effect but little. These are some of the difficulties attending the breeding of cattle.

We offer a few suggestions on the following topics: first, care in the selection of animals for breeding; second, feed and feeding; third, shelter and general management.

We cannot at once replace our pres-

ent herds by the purchase of very superior animals—hence we have to be content with improving such as we have. A breed of cattle may be improved by care and judgment in choice of parents, and after-care and feeding. The choice of a male depends upon what is to be required of the offspring, and in no case would we be willing to allow an unmatured, round, meaty, long-legged, low and narrowhipped animal to be used, but high and widehipped, short, flat, leanlegged animals, with a good countenance, and clean, nice head.

The breeding of cows for the dairy is an entirely different business, and one in which the cow is the type to be propagated. To breed good milkers, you should make a trial of all your best cows—those likely to breed after themselves—and in this way you can very much improve your dairy animals. We have little faith in a poor cow for milk bringing year after year an offspring proving a good milker, for this has not been the result of our observation, though we have seen cows, which produced offspring equal or superior to themselves, and their offspring the same and so on. It is a fact that the dairy cow can be improved as well as any other class of animals.

Do not breed from your heifers too young. Their own growth and the change of the climate are all they should provide against, until the third winter or spring, if you would have them bring and mature an offspring superior to themselves. Do not use a young male. The best cattle breeders of England never use a male in getting improved stock until he is full ripe, or has reached the age of from four to five years. Owing to males generally running at large here, and early becoming vicious, we know of only one bull in this county over four years old.

Let good judgment be exercised in the selection of animals, and any breed can be improved, provided the care and keeping to which they are subjected are such as are adapted to their wants.

We would never recommend any farmer who has not resolved to care well for his stock, to purchase any already improved animals, for their posterity will deteriorate to an equality with the natives, as readily as a hitherto well-kept farm in the hands of a sloven. In fact, the herds of the West to-day are just what the care of their owner has made them. In Texas, with a superior climate, they are long-legged and monstrous horned—in other States they often fall behind the dogs in breeding and keeping. In most northern States, where the climate is less favorable, they are a shade better, because receiving a little better care. How common it is to observe the marked difference in the stock of two

men—the result of management in breeding and perhaps at no greater expense in one than the other, yet making a difference of one-third in the market value of the animals. How fully these facts prove that care of animals has very much to do with the improvement of the breed. By care we mean the choice of parents, the keeping of the herd during gestation, and of the offspring for the first few years. We do not believe it possible to keep any of the thorough breeds up to their present excellence by the care given in the Texas herds. The best animals are only produced upon certain farms in England possessing certain peculiarities of soil, excellence of herbage, &c., which are not common even in the cultivated fields of Britain. Hence we lay it down as a rule not to be forgotten, that the keeping of the animal must fully equal all its wants, if improvement is to be the result. The human race has not improved except when temperate, well fed, and regular in exercise, diet and sleep, neither will our cattle improve, when ill housed and ill fed. ARTEL.

LEE COUNTY, ILL., Sept. 1856.

Chester County Breed of Hogs.

Isaac Darlington, an experienced farmer of Chester county, Pa., sends to the *Village Record*, the following account of this famous breed of hogs:

"As you have requested my views on the origin of the Chester county breed of hogs, I send you these opinions as the best that I am able to give. As far back as I can recollect, between thirty and forty years, the pigs were what we would now call indifferent—hardly any two farmers had pigs that looked alike. Some run very much to short ears and legs; others were diminutive in size; while others again filled up the intermediate places. While this state of things existed the Berkshires were introduced; a square built round body, but lacking depth over the shoulder, and withal a black pig, Chester county had set her eye on a white pig—and a white pig she must and would have. Accordingly, some or the older farmers began to pay more attention to the old stock; they hunted the best they could find to cross their stock with, and the change for the better was soon a marked one—better feed was given and move of it, which was a great help to his better development. The great rapidity with which the pig reproduces his stock, still kept the change in every one's recollection. The shape and color were the great changes perceptible; while you would find a great diversity in the skin—some thick and hard, while others of the same lot would be thin and pliable; better shelter was given them, and the thick

skin has generally given way for a thin. And the similarity is now so great, that if you go to a farmer and view his pigs, you may take as a sample of all the different lots in the neighborhood that have the same care. The characteristics of this breed as we may find it, are perfectly white hair, thin skin, square build, small head, a fair proportioned snout, deep sides, allowing large quarters, and great depth over the shoulders, small ears standing erect while young, but drooping after six or seven months. The weight varies according to his keep—if well kept he will average a pound a day for nearly two years if not longer. They may be made to exceed this, and it has been done, but not generally—nor do we always reach it, as all do not feed alike.

They have been made to weigh over nine hundred, but I do not recollect their age. There was great care taken to keep from breeding in-and-in, in perfecting this breed, which has long been known to have a deteriorating effect. We consider the above name justly given and justly deserved, and so satisfied are we that the above is the true origin of the above breed, that we consider we have a fair sample of the above breed on hand—although we do not recollect of having changed our stock but once for the last twenty-six years. By continually crossing with our neighbors, we consider we have the same stock.

SEED SAVING.

The seeds of cucumber, melon, etc. are better at any rate, when four or five years old than when fresh; and we have well authenticated instances of seeds retaining their vitality much longer than this. There is no fixed period during which seeds will keep. There is no reason to suppose that they would lose their vitality in any assignable number of years if the proper conditions were observed. De Candolle says that M. Gerardin raised kidney beans, obtained from Tournefort's herbarium, which were at least a hundred years old; but beans left to the chances of the atmosphere are not good the second year, and hardly worth planting in the third. Professor Lindley raised raspberry plants from seed not less than sixteen or seventeen hundred years old. Multitudes of other instances might be given. In reply to the first question, it may, then, be said, that the length of time through which seeds will keep depends upon the method of preserving them.

We do not suppose it to be essential to inclose apple, pear, and quince seeds in earth for the purpose of preserving their vitality during a single winter. But if exposed to the air, the rind becomes so hard and rigid as to make germination very difficult from mere mechanical reasons. The moisture of the

soil keeps the covering in a tender state, and it is easily ruptured by the expansion of the seed.

The shell of peach, plum, and other stone-fruit seeds would form, if left to dry and harden, a yet more hopeless prison. If kept for two years, the most stone-fruit pips, it is to be presumed, would not germinate. Some, however, would have vigor enough to grow even then. We have forgotten who it was, but believe it to have been a reliable person recently mentioned the fact, that a peach or apricot stone was for several years kept as a child's plaything; but upon being planted, grew, and is now a healthy tree. Such cases are, however, rare.

The intercourse between Great Britain and her distant colonies, and the various expeditions fitted out from her shores for purposes of botanical research and for the acquisition of new plants from distant regions, have made the subject of seed saving at sea a matter of much experiment.

In general, the conditions of preservation are three: a low temperature, dryness, and exclusion of air. But it often happens, that all these cannot be had, and then a choice must be made between them. Heat and moisture will either germinate the seed or corrupt them. In long voyages, and in warm regions, moisture contained in the seed, if in a close bottle, is sufficient to destroy the seed. Glass bottles have therefore been rejected. Seeds for long voyages, or for long preservation, are thoroughly ripened and thoroughly dried; but dried without raising the temperature of the air, as this would impair their vitality. They are then wrapped in coarse paper, and put, loosely, in a coarse canvas bag, and hung up in a cool airy place. In this way seeds will be as nearly secure from heat and moisture—their two worst enemies—as may be. It is probable that some seeds have but a short period of vitality under any circumstances of preservation. Seeds containing much oil, are peculiarly liable to spoil. Lindley suggests that the oil becomes rancid.

The preservation of seeds from one season to another, for home use, is not difficult, and may be described in three sentences: ripen them well, dry them thoroughly, and keep them aired and cool.

Some seeds retain their power of germination to an astonishing length of time, as will appear from facts stated by Professor Lindley:

"Not to speak of the doubtful instances of seeds taken from the Pyramids having germinated, melons have been known to grow at the age of 40 years, kidney beans at 100, sensitive-plant at 60, rye at 40; and there are now growing, in the garden of the Horticultural

Society; raspberry plants raised from seeds 1600 or 1700 years old."

But in selecting seeds, fresh ones should be had if possible. Where, however, the vegetable is cultivated for the sake of its flower, or its fruits, it is sometimes better to select old seed. Thus balsamines (the touch-me-not) and the cucumber, squash and melon tribe do better on seeds three or four years old; for fresh seeds produce plants whose growth will be too luxuriant for producing fruit; whereas from old seed, the plants have less vigor of growth but a great tendency to fruit well.

We insert a table, exhibiting the years which different seeds will retain their vitality:

Years.	Years.
Asparagus.....4 or 13	Marjoram.....4
Balm.....2	Melon.....8 or 10
Basil.....1 or 3	Mustard.....3 or 4
Beans.....1 or 2	Nasturtium.....2 or 3
Beets.....8 or 10	Onion.....3
Borage.....2	Parsley.....5 or 6
Cabbage.....6 or 8	Parsnip.....1
Carrot.....1 or 7	Pea.....2 or 3
Celery.....6 or 8	Pumpkin.....8 or 10
Corn.....2 or 3	Pepper.....5 or 6
Cress.....2	Raddish.....6 or 8
Cucumber.....8 or 10	Rue.....3
Caraway.....4	Ruta Baga.....4
Fennel.....5	Salsify.....2
Garlic.....3	Savory.....3 or 4
Leek.....3 or 4	Spinage.....3 or 4
Lettuce.....3 or 4	Squash.....8 or 0
Mangel Wurzel.....8 or 10	Turnip.....3 or 4

How to Detect Imperfect Vision or Blindness in Horses.

The novice in horse-flesh may have good grounds for suspicion as to the existence of imperfect vision or blindness when the horse moves his ears in a constant and rapid motion, directing them in quick succession to every quarter from whence the least sound proceeds. His action is lofty and faltering, and he lifts his feet and replaces them on the ground as if stepping over some obstacle, when there is actually nothing to impede his progression. But, notwithstanding that these symptoms would be sufficient to create suspicion, there are other causes (besides imperfect vision) by which the same, or similar symptoms, would appear in horses. For instance, if a horse with the most perfect pair of eyes were led from a dark stable into the blazing sunshine, the sudden contraction of the pupil of his eye would render it impossible, for a few moments, for him to see but very indistinctly; hence would arise the same symptoms of uncertainty in his movements, until the pupil becomes steady after the sudden contraction.—The dilation and contraction of the pupil of the horse's eye furnishes the principal means of ascertaining whether the blindness exists in one eye or both, as the pupil varies in size, according to the degree of light which is brought to bear upon it. In a dark stable the pupil if expanded, so that a greater portion of light falls upon the corner; but if the horse be led to the door of the stable, the pupil will contract, so as to exclude more light than could be endured, and

if suddenly exposed to the sun, the aperture will be all but closed; therefore the novice should carefully notice these variations in the pupil, whether they contract or expand equally by the increase and decrease of the light—which he may readily perceive by advancing the horse's head to the open door or window of the stable, and backing him again into the darkness, until he is satisfied as to the perfection or imperfection of the horse's vision. But if the horse should be examined in the open air, the novice should first notice whether both pupils are of exactly the same size. After this he should carefully place his hand, so as not to alarm the horse, over each eye, to shade of the light, and hold it there for a short time, noticing the extent to which the pupil dilates, then passing his hand over the other eye, and ascertain whether it also dilates to the same extent, and if he should still be uncertain, let him place both hands in the position of shades over both the eyes of the horse, and he will at once perceive (if his own vision be good) whether they are perfect, and if not, which of the two are imperfect.

I would suggest to all owners of horses the importance of admitting plenty of light and pure air into their stables; for I am satisfied that nothing tends more to injure the eyes of a horse and impair his vision than dark or badly-ventilated stables. Every man who keeps horses for the purpose of assisting him in earning his livelihood would be neglecting a very important portion of his business, by inattention to lighting, draining, and ventilation of his stables, to say nothing of his imperative duty to treat his horses in the manner they so richly deserve.

I maintain that horses are as deserting of pure dwellings as the best of God's creatures. The efforts of our Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the activity of its officers, is sufficient evidence of their philanthropy; but I have never known a conviction for shutting up a horse, and half smothering him in the rank, pestiferous atmosphere of a non-drained or ventilated stable, and still this will be admitted by all men, possessed of common sense, to be gross cruelty.

In every town and village in the United Kingdom may be found stables without drainage, and even at this season of the year, with very little, if any ventilation. I have at various places in my travels, frequently been present at the opening of these badly-ventilated dwellings for horses, the first thing in the morning, as I have no doubt some of my readers have also; therefore they will agree with me in saying that the atmosphere is sufficient to stifle many a man, and quite sufficient of itself to engender

a variety of diseases among the miserable occupants.

There are thousands of stables in which the door is the only aperture for the ingress of pure air; and even this is, in most instances closed, both when the horse is at rest, as at work or exercise; thus he has, while in the stable, or rather, horse oven, to breathe the same air over and over again, inhaling the ammonia which is constantly rising from the interstices of the irregular pavement, or mud floor, and this is not only a constant cause of misery to the horse, but by acting most injuriously on his eyes, entails a serious loss to his owner, by decreasing his value.

There are a few respectable builders, now-a-days, who do not understand the erection of well-ventilated stables; but where owners of horses cannot afford to have their old stables rebuilt, they might, at least, break out windows to admit light and air, and also, at a trifling expense, drain the floors; and thus, by keeping the air cool and sweet, they would, to a certain extent, neutralize the effects which a stifling and impure atmosphere will sooner or later entail upon their horses.—*London Review.*

Milk which does not Yield Butter, and the Means to Remedy It.

The author calls the attention of those who are chiefly interested in such cases, in which there is no disease of the mammary gland nor loss of milk, but a want of oleaginous matters in the fluid. In the causes of this deficiency of butter-making quality, he concludes that there are two principal ones, viz: idiosyncrasy and alimentation; but there is another which cannot be so easily defined, and which occurs in animals that are well kept, and whose milk has been previously rich in butter. It is these that the remedy is principally directed. The remedy consists in giving the animal two ounces of the sulphuret of antimony, with three ounces of coriander seeds, powdered and well mixed. This is to be given as a soft bolus, and followed by a draught composed of half a pint of vinegar, a pint of water, and a handful of common salt, for three successive mornings, no an empty stomach.

This remedy, according to the author, rarely fails, and the milk produced some days after its exhibition is found to be richer in cream. The first churning yields a larger quantity of butter, but the second and third are still more satisfactory in their results.

A letter from a farmer states that he had fourteen cows in full milk, from which he obtained very little butter, and that of a bad quality. Guided by the statements of M. Deneubourg, which had appeared in the *Annales Veterinaries*, he had separately tested the milk of his cows, and found that the bad quality of it was owing to one cow only, and that the milk of the others yielded good and abundant butter. It was, therefore, clearly established that the loss he had so long sustained was attributed to this cow only. He at once administered the remedy recommended by M. Deneubourg, which effected a cure.

COMMERCIAL.

Springfield Market--Nov. 26.

WHEAT--90c@95c @bu;
 FLOUR--\$5 50 @brl;
 CORN--New, 30c @bu;
 CORN MEAL--50c @bu;
 OATS--25c@30c @bu;
 BEANS--\$1@1 25 @bu;
 BRAN--10c @bu;
 SHORTS--10c @bu;
 TIMOTHY--\$1 75;
 HUNGARIAN Gr 8'd--none.
 MILLET--None;
 CLOVER--\$6 50@7 @bu;
 POTATOES--New, 30@40c;
 HAY--\$6@8 @ton;
 TALLOW--8 1/2@9c @lb;
 SOAP--bar. 4 to 6c @lb;
 CANDLES--12 1/2c @box;
 PICKLED P'K--\$8@10 @100;
 BACON--hams 12 to 13c @lb;
 CHICKENS--\$1 25@1 50;
 BUCKWHEAT--40c @bu;

BACON--sides 12 1/2c @lb;
 EGGS--10@12c @doz;
 LARD--12c @lb;
 SUGAR--8c@10 @lb;
 COFFEE--13c@15c @lb;
 MOLASSES--45c@60c @gal;
 SALT--\$1 75 @seal;
 SALT--\$1 75 @brl;
 MACKEREL--12c@13c No 1;
 CODFISH--\$6 50 @100 lbs;
 APPLES--dried, \$1 60 @bu;
 WOOD--\$3@4 00 @cord;
 COAL--11c @bu;
 WHISKY--27@30c @gal;
 VINEGAR--10c @gal;
 BROOMS--\$1 50@2 50 @doz;
 BUTTER--20@25c @lb;
 HIDES--Dry, best, 10@12c;
 HIDES--Green, 5c;
 APPLES--green, 75@1 \$1;
 FEATHERS--35@40c @lb;

THE HOG TRADE.

The wet and unfavorable weather of the past week has had the effect of delaying operations in the packing business. It will be observed by our quotations that hogs are declining in all the principal packing points.

We heard of a sale yesterday to a city packer of 1,000 head to average 225 lbs. at \$5 net. This figure cannot at present be obtained, as the hog product is too low to justify the packers in paying such prices, and they will hold off until an advance in the product takes place. We quote the offering price steady at \$4 50 net, for hogs averaging 200 lbs.

Thursday's New York Tribune says:

The few sharp, frosty nights of the past week have had a tendency to sharpen the appetite of pork eaters; at any rate, to quicken the propensities of buyers, and they have come forward in such numbers that the hog merchants took courage and advanced their rates. The following are the present quotations: Best corn fed hogs 6c lb gross; second best, 5 1/2@5 7/8c; distillery hogs, 5 1/4@5 1/2c.

Friday's St. Louis papers say:

About 4,000 have been killed up to this time; but receipts are hardly yet sufficient to even start our larger houses.

A lot of 600 hogs, to average 200 lb., was bought at 5 1/2c, to arrive by the 10th proximo. The weather continues too open for packers; we quote the extreme range of prices at \$4 75@5 75 net. Receipts are yet small--8 cars by railroad yesterday.

Tuesday's Chicago Tribune says.

The market for live hogs to-day was not so buoyant, and prices have on an average declined fully 10c. Shippers did not take held very freely, and this enabled the packers to control the market. Light hogs especially were dull and lower--sales varying from \$3 90@4 1 1/2 gross. Heavy hogs were less depressed, but even these did not bring yesterday's prices--several lots averaging about 200 lb being sold as low as \$4 20. Some choice lots, however, were sold at \$4 40@4 4 1/2.

Saturday's Cincinnati Gazette says:

Some hogs were killed to-day, but as a general thing the supplies are being held over for safe weather. The market at close may be quoted steady, at \$5 50 for light to \$5 75 for first class hogs--\$5 60 to \$5 65 the prevailing figures for lots averaging 190 to 200 lb. The demand, however, was not active. The majority of packers have not quite made up their minds to pay these prices. The receipts were about 6,000 head. In provisions there was not much done. Green hams moved off pretty freely at 7 3/4@8c. New lard is quiet at 9 1/4@9 7/8c. Mess pork is firm at \$14 for old. New sold for February at \$14 50. Old bacon is firm at 7 3/4@9 1/4 for shoulders and sides.

Monday's Missouri Democrat says:

St. Louis packers are ready to contract for hogs delivered here up to December 10th, at the following rates: \$5 50 net for those averaging over 200 lb., and 5 25 for hogs of 180 to 200 lb. As yet, only small lots have come in. Ashcroft has killed some 3,000 head; Bayhas commenced on 200 head Saturday, out of 600 in their pens. But it is too early and warm for a general commencement or receipt of large lots of fat hogs.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF ST. LOUIS MARKET--NOV. 19.

The weather has been disagreeable most of the week, with some rain, but not a sufficiency to do the river much good, so dry had the earth become. Freight to New Orleans continue firm, at \$1 per barrel for flour, and 60c per 100 lbs for common freight. A good deal of flour, particularly city double extra, is shipped directly east, by railroad, \$1 35 per barrel to New York, and \$1 40 to Boston. The flour market has been inactive, except on Thursday, when some 5,000 barrels sold, 2,000 barrels of it city superfine, for 1st January, at 5, at which it is at present held. The wheat market has been pretty well supplied, and prices have ruled steady, though daily a little easier to the buyer, particularly at the close. Sales range between 95c and 113c. Corn has been in light supply and inactive, until to-day, when it is beginning to arrive more freely and the market shows a decline of 2@3c; sales of white at 50c, and yellow at 55c. Oats has held its price to the close, 45@48c. Barley has been dull at 55@65c for fall, and 60c for prime spring. Rye remained steady at 60@63c.

Grain stocks have run down largely; the gloomy account of sugar crops in the south, affect prices there and here, and the demand is good here, with little supply. To-day, 20 hhds fair sold at 7 1/4c, and 77 hhds good fair at 7 1/2c. Some 400 bags of coffee, received from New York, sold at 12 1/2c, but more can hardly be had under 12 1/2c. Some new plantation molasses sold at 46c; and as it sells at 42c in New Orleans, but little profit is made. New rice is 5c @lb. Salt

is not in much demand; some 2,000 sold to-day at \$1 40@1 50 for G. A., according to quality; Turk's Island is 70@00c. Nothing was done in hemp, lead or tobacco, to-day, and but little during the week. Last sales of Galena lead \$5 20, and of prime hemp \$1 10. No tobacco of consequence arriving. Hay is in fair demand at 78@85c. Whisky has fluctuated but little, closing dull at a slight decline--2c for cash.

CHICAGO MARKET--NOV. 23, p. m.

The light receipts of wheat this morning caused an advance of 1 to 2c on spring grades this morning, with a very quiet market, closing firm at 86 1/2c for No 2 and 88 1/2c for No 1. Winter wheat in better demand.

New corn in good shipping demand at a decline of 2 to 3c; closing quiet at 43c for No 1. Old corn steady with a better demand. Flour quiet and unchanged. Oats quiet but firm at 30 to 30 1/2c for No 1. Nothing doing in Rye or Barley. Lake freights quiet. Highwines a shade easier. Dressed hogs scarce and sales mainly in retail lots.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET, NOV. 23.

Cattle--Beef advanced 1/2c @lb owing to decreased receipts. Prices ranged from 6@10 1/2c, averaging about 8c @lb. Receipts 3,200 head.

Sheep and Lambs--Advanced 25c @head. Market active. Receipts 13,500 carcasses.

Swine--Declined 1/2c @lb. Receipts 11,500, being an increase of 5,000 over last week. Prices range from 5@5 3/4c.

ST. LOUIS HORSE AND MULE MARKET--NOV. 19.

The offerings have not been as large during the past week as they were the week previous, the rush of common stock into market having in a degree subsided, on account of low prices. There has been no further decline, and, in fact, the sales of yesterday indicated that prices were a shade more favorable for sellers. Buyers for the southern markets have been present during the past few days, and are now here, but have not yet made any purchase.

Private sales bring the week of 1 pair black match horses at \$400; 1 span work horses at 280; a span do at \$220; 1 span do at \$175; 1 fine mare at \$175; 1 large draught horse at \$150; 1 draught horse at \$125; 1 buggy do at 125; 1 mare at \$110; 1 span small do at \$150; 2 draught horses at \$80 each; 1 span mules at 275; 1 small mule at \$40. Left over in stable 45 head.

ST. LOUIS LIVE STOCK MARKET--NOV. 17.

CATTLE--The market continues overstocked with cattle. Common cattle are selling at miserably low rates, say 3/4@2 1/2c gross; none but smooth steers for feeding purposes will bring the latter figure; good fat steers will bring from 5@5 1/4c net, with a light demand for shipping, owing to the present high rates of freight.

SHEEP--A fair supply on the market, with a light demand, and prices in favor of purchasers, say \$1 50@1 80 @head for common to good; extra will sell for a higher figure.

HOGS--A fair demand with a light supply on the market; good lots weighing over 200 lb net, will bring 5 1/4c net; under 200 lb, 4 1/2@5c net; none left over unsold.

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET--NOV. 16.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE MARKET.--We have to report the continued influx of an over-supply of beef cattle, or cattle brought here to be sold for beef, if anybody will buy them as such. Some purchases were made to-day and last week at \$10@12, and from that up to \$25 @head, by parties who must be connected with the glue factories, for certainly no one could think of getting salable beef out from between the skin and bones of some of the live carcasses offered and actually sold in the cattle yards. There may be some two in sending a "cove" of beasts to market and selling them for \$10 and paying \$13 expenses, but we cannot see it. Aside from these, however, there were many fair animals offered to-day, though none worthy to be ranked as premium bullocks. An unusual number of country buyers chanced to come in, which helped to keep up prices to about last week's figures and clear out the yards, with the exception of about 200, which were unsold at sundown. An advance in pork also helped out the cattle market somewhat.

Milk cows, though arriving in moderate numbers, are so slow of sale that they can hardly be quoted as selling at any price. Sheep and lambs have come in quite largely, but there has been a brisk demand and though the receipts have exceeded those of last week over 3,000, a small advance in price was obtained to-day for the better grades. The yards are unusually well cleared out, considering the abundant supply of nearly 15,000. Swine are scarce and higher. The packing business is somewhat brisk, and a few thousand more than were off red would have found buyers at an advance of 1/2c @lb. over last week's prices. The following figures show the total receipts of live stock at all the New York city markets for the week ending Nov. 15.

	Beef Cattle.	Milk Cows.	Veal Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Swine.
This week.....	5,251	123	710	14,882	7,119
Preceding week.....	4,566	164	587	10,936	9,799
Same w'k last yr 5 119	2-0	650	11,012	26,045	
Weekly average of beefs for 1857.....	3,143				
Weekly average of beefs for 1858.....	3,676				

Of the 8,965 bullocks yarded at Forty-fourth street, this week, so far as we could ascertain their origin from owners and salesmen, and from the yard-books, 1,107 head came from Ohio, 954 from New York, 689 from Indiana, 497 from Illinois, 181 from Pennsylvania, 151 from Canada, 145 from Kentucky, 126 from Missouri, and 115 from Michigan. This is a larger proportion from Indiana than we have lately found in market. The above including 1,100 sold at Bergau, came into market by the following routes: By Erie Railroad, 2,214; by Hudson River Railroad, 1,471; by river barges, 750; by Harlem Railroad, 280; by Camden and Amboy Railroad, 191; and on foot, 150. There seems to be a general satisfaction among drovers with the treatment of their live stock on all the railroad routes, which we are glad to make a note of.

The following droves from Illinois were at this market:

George W. Funk, Ill. 80; R. Haywood, Ill. 100; Thomas Lott, O. 36; George Sage, Ill. 51; Gillet & Taffey, Ill. 178; M. Fountain, Ill. 40; James G. Odwin, Ill. 38.

PRICES.--Taking the average of the entire transactions of this week's market, to-day and yesterday included, the range of prices this week, and those of last week, set down for comparison, are about as follows:

	To-day.	Last Week.
Premium cattle.....	none.	none.
First quality.....	9 1/4@10	9 1/4@10
Medium quality.....	8 @ 8 1/2	8 @ 8 1/2
Poor quality.....	6 1/2@7	6 1/2@7
Poorest quality.....	4 @ 5 1/2	4 @ 5 1/2
General selling prices.....	7 @ 8 1/2	7 @ 8 1/2
Average of all sales.....	7 1/2@	7 1/2@

It will be seen, that with a single exception, we have not changed the selling rates for two weeks past. There is a wide range in the prices--all the way from 4c to 10c @lb. Very few sold at 10c; most buyers conceded that their best beef would cost them only 9c@9 1/4c in the carcass, allowing the hide, head fat and rough tallow for the expenses of purchasing and killing. There was but a light business at Albany for eastern markets, only about 600 head. No cattle are left over at that point this week, so far as we could learn.

To PRINTERS--We have for sale, low for cash, a cylinder printing machine, Northrup's patent, in good order. A good Washington press, imperial size, will be taken in part payment, if desired. This machine is rigged for turning by hand or steam.

The type on which the JOURNAL is now printed, together with the column and dash rules, will be for sale when our new dress arrives. Also several fonts of job type, about half worn. d&wtf

MAGISTRATES' BLANKS--We have just printed a quantity of new blank forms for the use of magistrates, which together with the best forms of blank deeds, bonds, mortgages, etc., are offered for sale at our Counting Room on first floor. d&wtf

Eugene L. Gross,

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